Animal Tales

The only magazine packed with the **most amazing animals!**

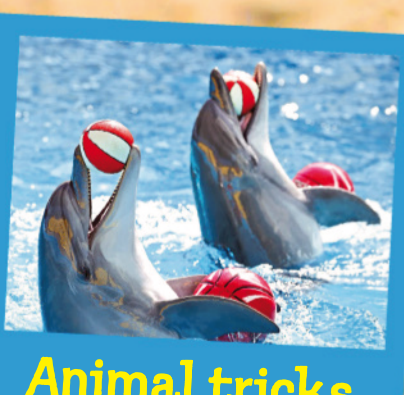
LOL-WORTHY EMBARRASSING STORIES!

FUN in the SUN!

Have a **splash** this sunny season with our activities, puzzles, quizzes **& more!**

12 SUMMER ESSENTIALS FOR ANIMAL LOVERS!

DRAWING LESSON:
TURN YOUR FAVORITE CRITTERS INTO MERMAIDS!



Animal tricks you need to see to believe!

10 POSTERS OF CUTE CREATURES!

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HAPPY
SUMMER
Animal Tales

Animal Tales

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If you or a parent are on Facebook, be sure to "like" us at facebook.com/animaltalesmag. If you or a parent are on Instagram, follow us @animaltalesmag.

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Are you as confident as a lion? Flip to this page to see!

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PREVIOUS PAGE: ELENA SHASHKINA/SHUTTERSTOCK; BLUEORANGE STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK; ERIC ISSELEE/SHUTTERSTOCK
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ON THE COVER: MAIN: JAVIER BROSCH/SHUTTERSTOCK; INSETS: NAOKO MATSUNAGA; SHUTTERSTOCK / EVGHENI MANCIU

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Zoo KNEW?

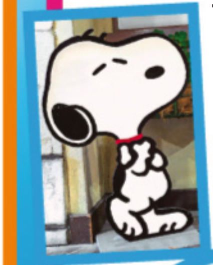
Animal news and fun facts!

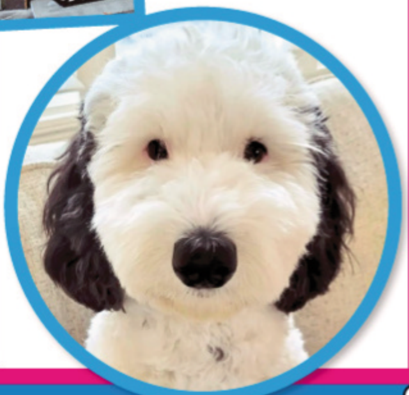
Mammals that live with friends live longer than ones that live alone!

Scientists did a study on almost 1,000 different types of mammals to learn about their lifespans and they discovered that friendship is a key to a long life! Species that are known to live their lives in groups, like whales and horses, had longer lives than the types of animals that live alone, like shrews and hedgehogs. Why does this happen? Well, one reason is because living in a group means animals have friends to alert them when predators are nearby and can help each other hunt for food when they're hungry!

This dog looks just like Snoopy!

Imagine if your favorite cartoon characters could live in the real world! Well, this mini Sheepadoodle named Bayley looks a whole lot like a real-life version of the character Snoopy! The two-year-old pup isn't the same breed as Snoopy, who is a beagle, but they do have a lot of the same features, like their white bodies, black ears and noses and rounded snouts. They also have similar hobbies — Snoopy likes flying planes while Bayley loves riding in cars!

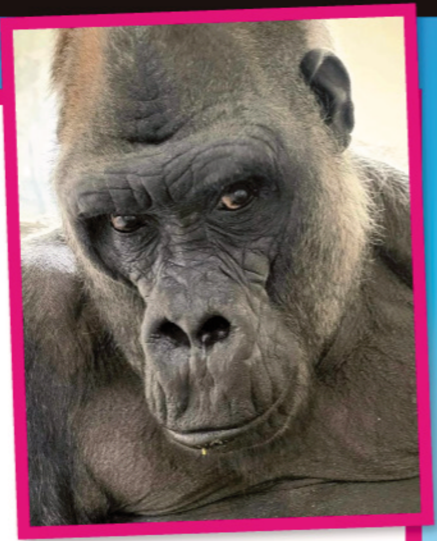




SHUTTERSTOCK/IGOR PLOTNIKOV; SHUTTERSTOCK/ENCHANTED FAIRY; BAYLEY.SHEEPADOODLE/INSTAGRAM

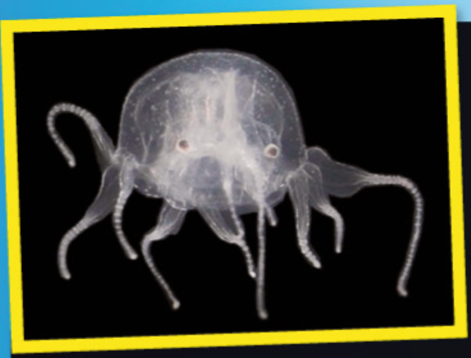
Parrots love video chatting with each other!

Polly want a FaceTime? Curious to learn if parrots would be interested in video calling with other parrots around the world, scientists gathered a group of parrots (and their humans) and taught them to make video calls on tablets and phones. Before they knew it, the parrots were attempting to make the calls on their own, and while on video with their parrot friends, they'd learn new things, like how to fly and make different noises. The scientists believe that video calling can be a way for parrots to live happier and more productive lives!



Meet the world's oldest silverback gorilla!

Ramses is one mature gorilla! He celebrated his 52nd birthday this year, officially making him the oldest living silverback gorilla in the world. Most gorillas live to be around 40 years old, so Ramses' big day is a big deal! He lives in the Fort Worth Zoo in Texas, but is retired, which means he doesn't live in a habitat on display to zoo visitors, but instead stays in a back area where zookeepers can give him lots of care and attention.

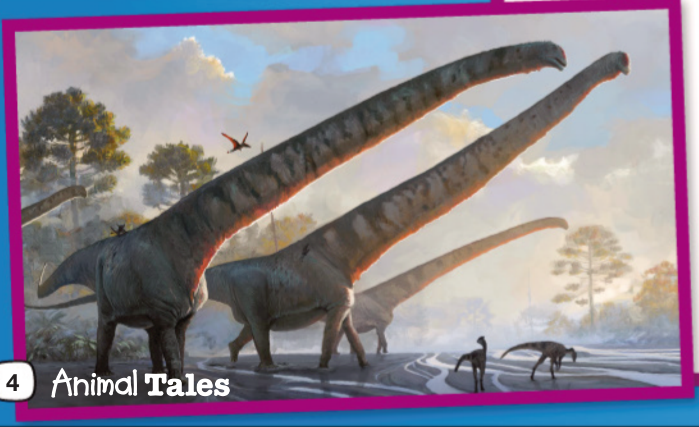


The newly-discovered wacky jellyfish has 24 eyes!

This jellyfish called the Tripedalia maipoensis has just been discovered by scientists in Hong Kong! Their bodies are completely see-through and have no color. But, what makes them extra unique is that they have 24 eyes. The eyes are in four clusters of six eyes, and each cluster has two eyes that can see images and four eyes that can only see color.

The longest dinosaur neck was longer than a school bus!

During the Jurassic period, there lived a sauropod dinosaur called the Mamenchisaurus sinocanadorum that had 49.5-foot long neck! That very long neck made it possible to forage for food from even the taller of trees, making it easy for this herbivore to eat. Experts also believe their giant necks were a means for the creature to cool off, similar to how an elephant uses its giant ears to stay cool.

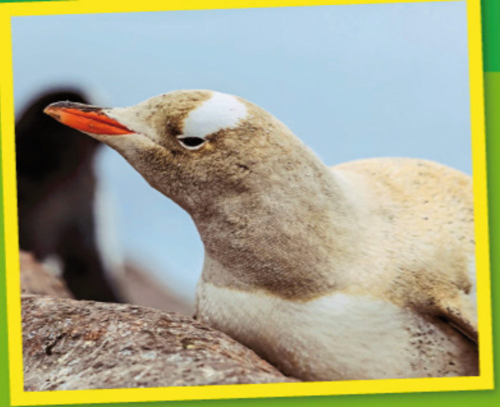


EWW, GROSS!

What's gross about that?

Some beetles drink using their butts!

You won't catch red flour beetles using a straw when they're thirsty. Instead the insects have a very unique way of staying hydrated. When they need to, they'll use their rear ends to collect water vapor that's blowing in the air. They have special cells in their bodies that can pull the water from that vapor. Because of this, red flour beetles survive best in places with a lot of humidity in the air and have a harder time surviving in places that are dry.



This blonde penguin is very rare!

Notice anything different about this penguin? Yep, it's missing its black feathers! That's because it has a genetic mutation called leucism that gives its feathers a washed-out look. While they may look different, penguins with leucism aren't treated any differently by the other penguins in their colony!

Gotta GET IT!

Hunt for dinos!

You can dig for and build your own dinosaurs, just like paleontologists with this cool set! You'll get either a Triceratops, Stegosaurus or a T-Rex. You won't know which one you get until you open up your kit and start the hunt!

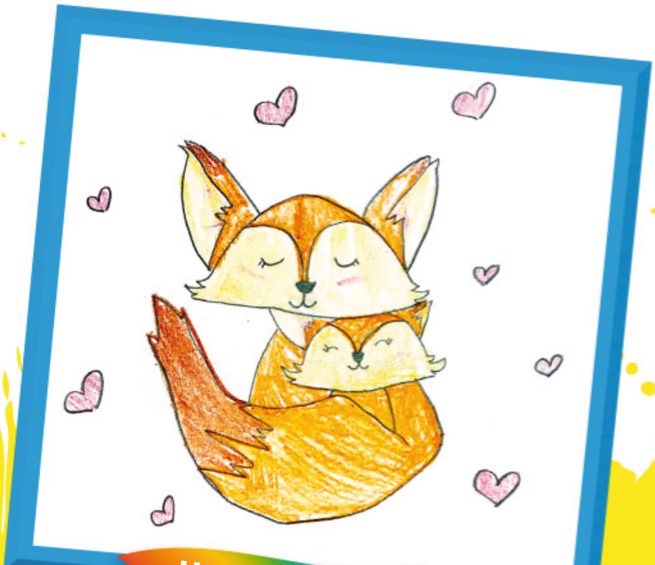
Kinetic Sand DinoXCavate, $6, target.com

The One & Only!
Kinetic Sand
Dino X Cavate
6+
WARNING:

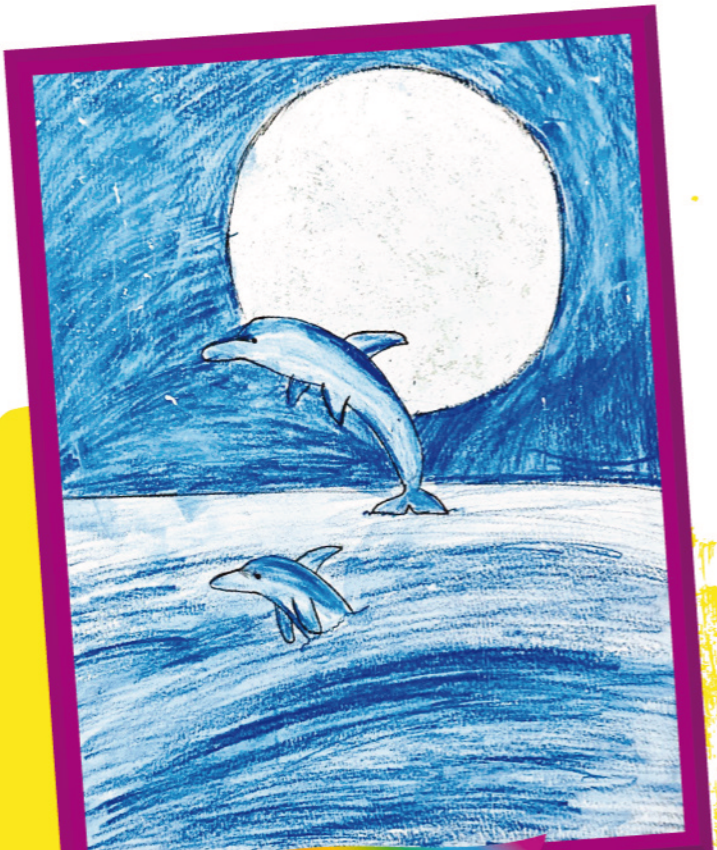
This eagle turned a rock into his imaginary son!

Murphy the bald eagle lives in a bird sanctuary thanks to injuries that make him unable to be released into the wild. Though Murphy couldn't have any eagle chicks of his own, he found a rock and took it under his wing, treated it like an unhatched egg and screeching at anyone who go too close. Everything changed when the sanctuary got an eagle chick who had fallen from its nest. Keepers know Murphy was the perfect dad, so the chick joined Murphy in his enclosure. So far, he's done a great job, teaching his chick to eat and helping to keep it safe!

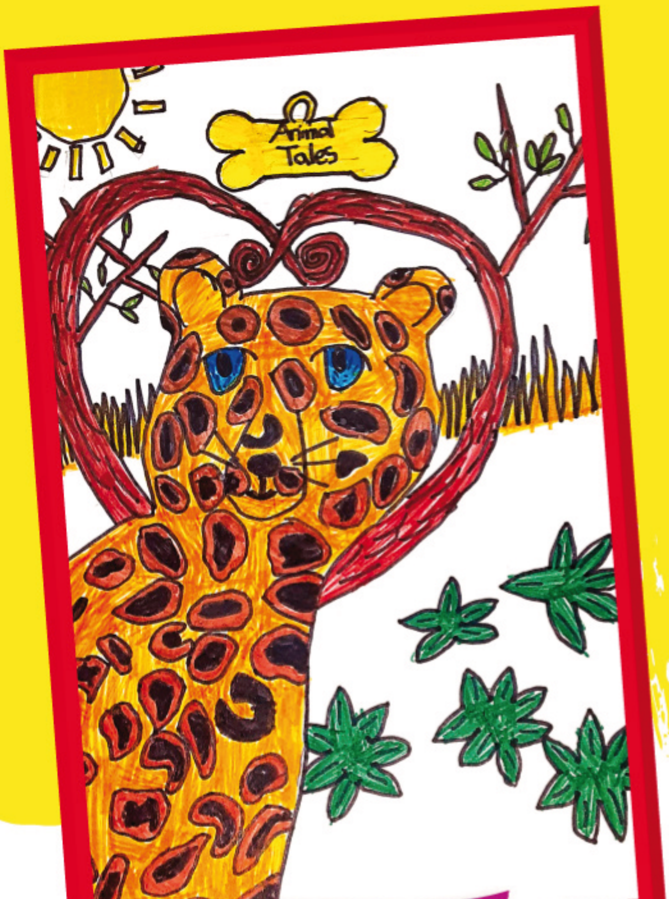
MATTHEW MODOONO/NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY (2); FORT WORTH ZOO; HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY/QIU JIANWEN/COVER IMAGES;
JÚLIA D'OLIVEIRA; SHUTTERSTOCK/TOMASZ KLEJDYSZ; SHUTTERSTOCK/ELEANOR SCRIVEN; WORLD BIRD SANCTUARY/INSTAGRAM; KINETIC SAND



Hana, 10, NJ



Danya, 8, CA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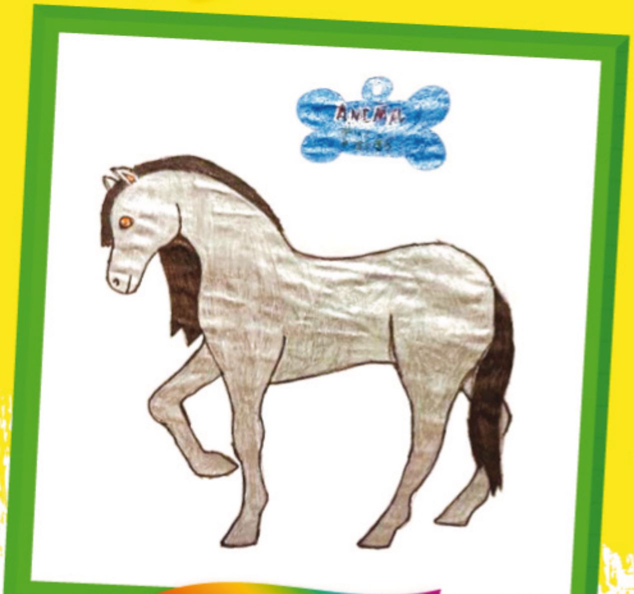
Regina, 9, UT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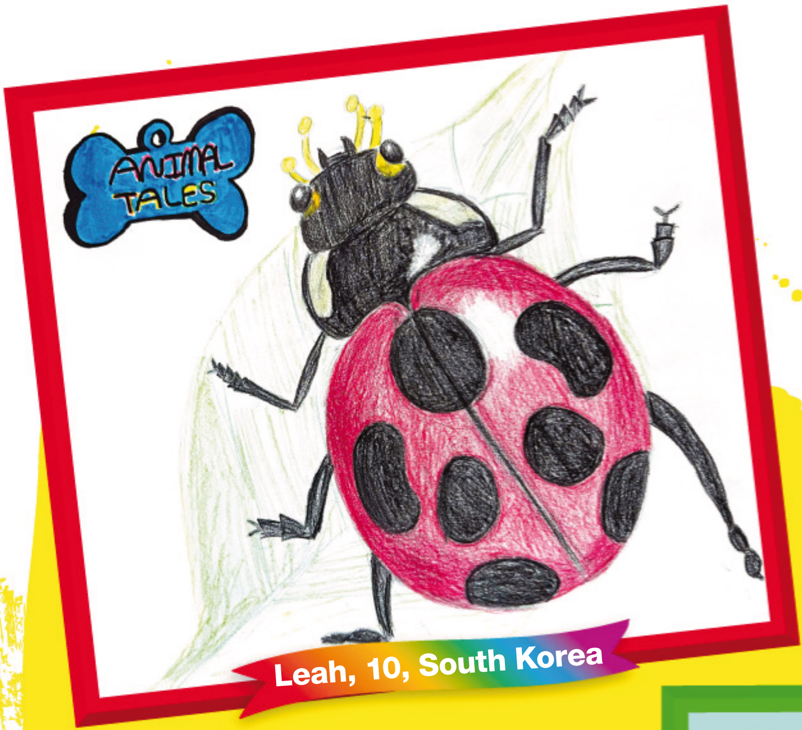
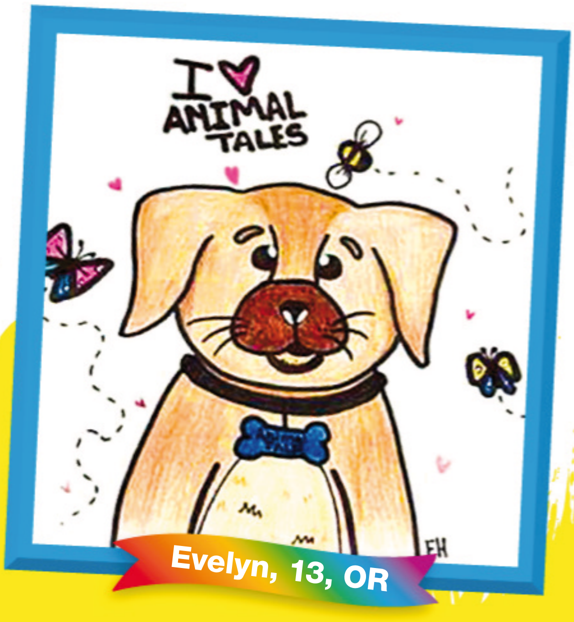
Arya, 11, TX

Express

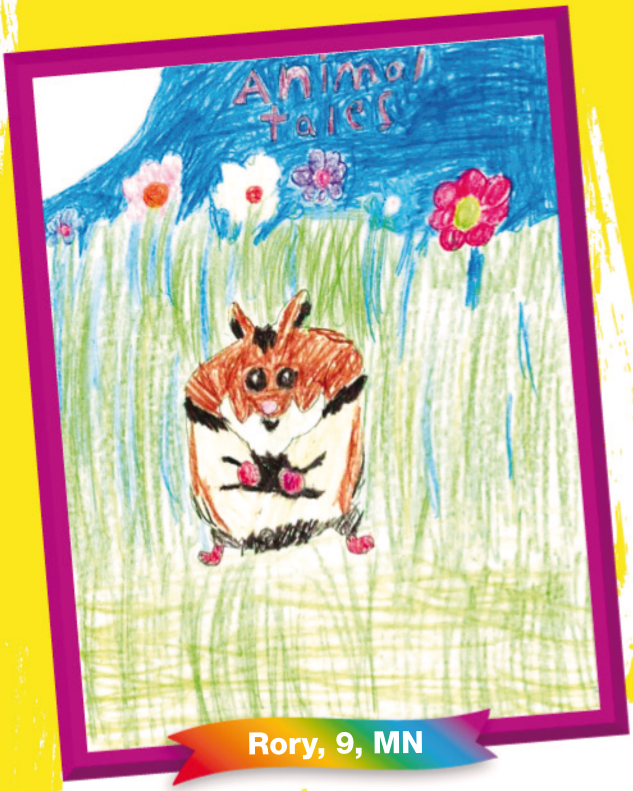
We loved looking


ANIMAL TALES

Leah, 10, South Korea


I ♥ ANIMAL TALES
EH

Evelyn, 13, OR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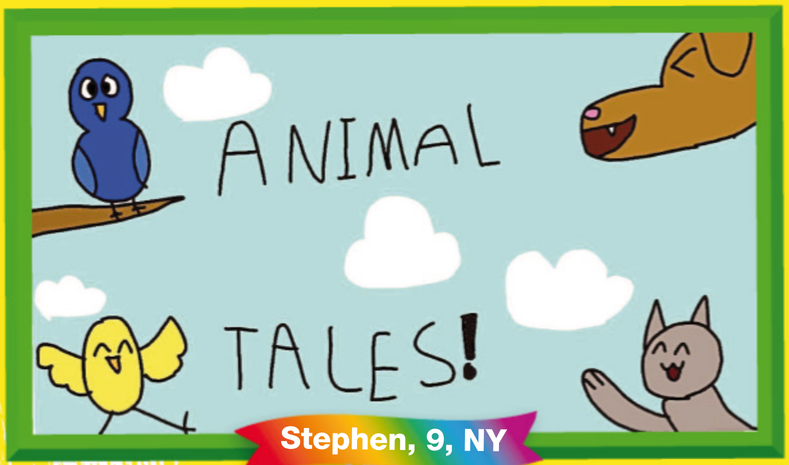
Rory, 9, MN


ANIMAL
TALES!

Stephen, 9, NY

SEND US YOUR ARTWORK!

Draw a picture of an animal, and it could wind up in our next issue! Send your drawing and first name, age and state to mail@animaltalesmag.com with "Express Yourself" in the subject line.

Yourself

at all of your adorable animal drawings!

Animal BABIES

We can't get enough of these adorable little ones!

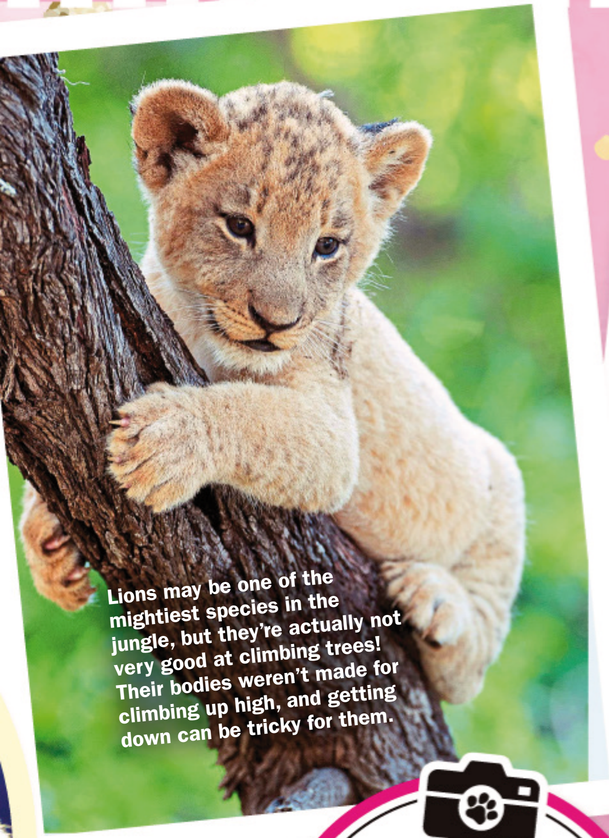
Koala joeys have a special connection to their moms! After they're born, they live inside of their mom's pouch for six months without coming out and then slowly join the world.

Chicks are smart animals with great memories and the ability to recognize different humans. Experts even say that when they sleep, they dream the same way humans do!

Baby guinea pigs are rare rodents because when they're first born, they already have all of their hair and teeth! In fact, they're able to eat by themselves and run around after only a few hours of being born.

Sunlight is important for kittens! When they sleep, their bodies get cool and the sun helps them stay warm. It also gives them important vitamins and energy to grow into healthy cats.

ANNA KUCHEROVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; PCHT/SHUTTERSTOCK; VVITA/SHUTTERSTOCK; TOMMY DAYNJER/SHUTTERSTOCK; ALIZADA STUDIOS/SHUTTERSTOCK; RUDI HULSHOF/SHUTTERSTOCK; RITA_KOCHMARJOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK (2)



Lions may be one of the mightiest species in the jungle, but they're actually not very good at climbing trees! Their bodies weren't made for climbing up high, and getting down can be tricky for them.

Black-capped squirrel monkey babies are more chatty than their parents! They make noises that sound like "peeps," especially when they're far away from their mothers and need some attention.

SEND US YOUR PHOTO!

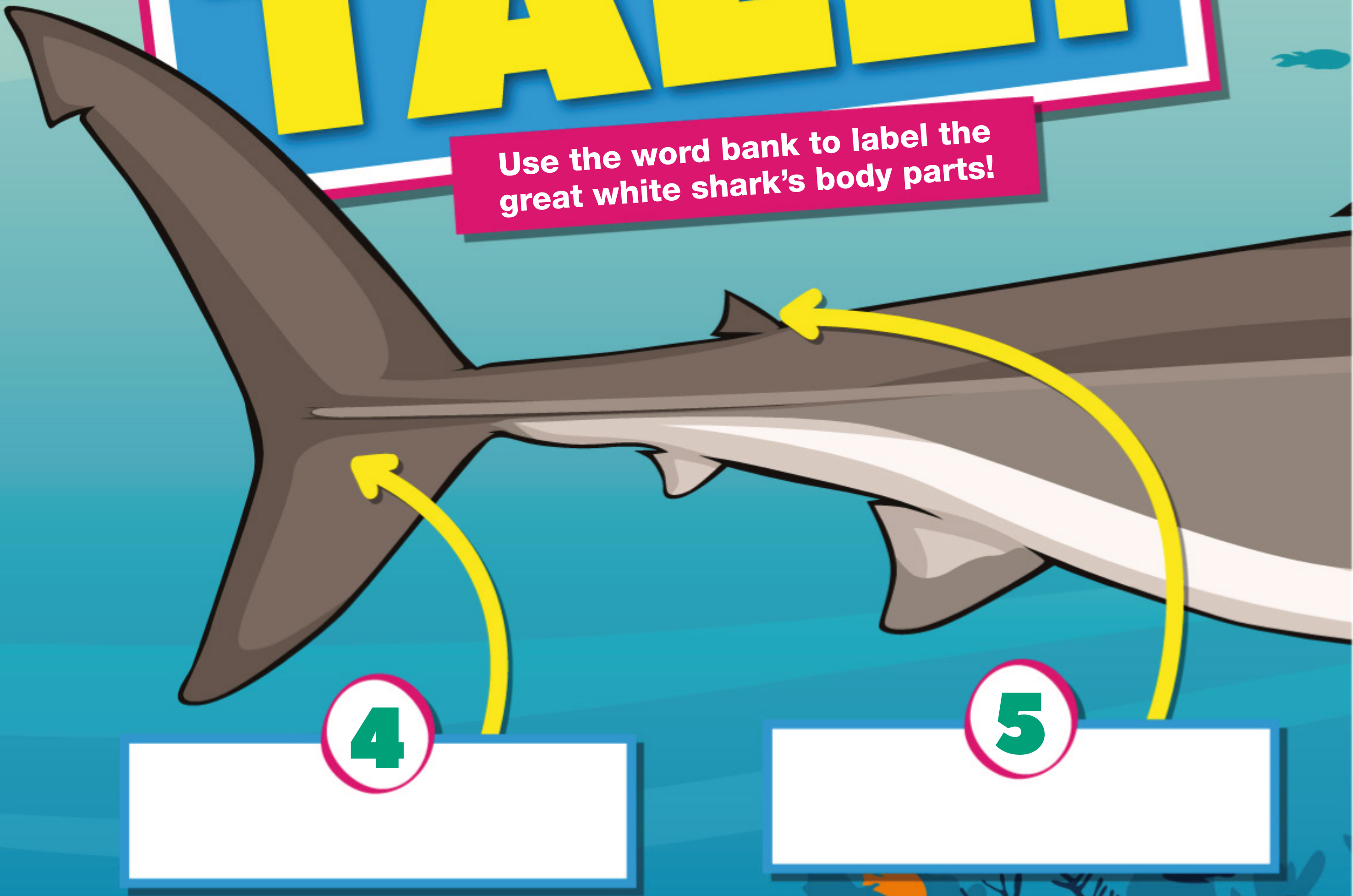
Send us a picture of your adorable baby animal, and it could end up on this page! Email it to us at mail@animaltalesmag.com with "Animal Babies" in the subject line.

Sea turtle hatchlings are strong little animals! They're born in a nest in the sand without their parents around. Once they hatch, their instincts guide them to make the long journey across the sand, into the ocean.

Baby goats, or kids, love to jump in the air! The activity, called stotting, helps them see over tall grass, communicate with other goats, scare off predators and have fun!

A Shark's TALE!

Use the word bank to label the great white shark's body parts!



BODY PARTS

CAUDAL FIN: The crescent-shaped tail fin

FIRST DORSAL FIN: Found in the middle of the shark's back, the triangular fin keeps the shark stable

GILLS: Five to seven slits used to help the shark breathe

LABIAL FURROWS: Shallow grooves found around the lips

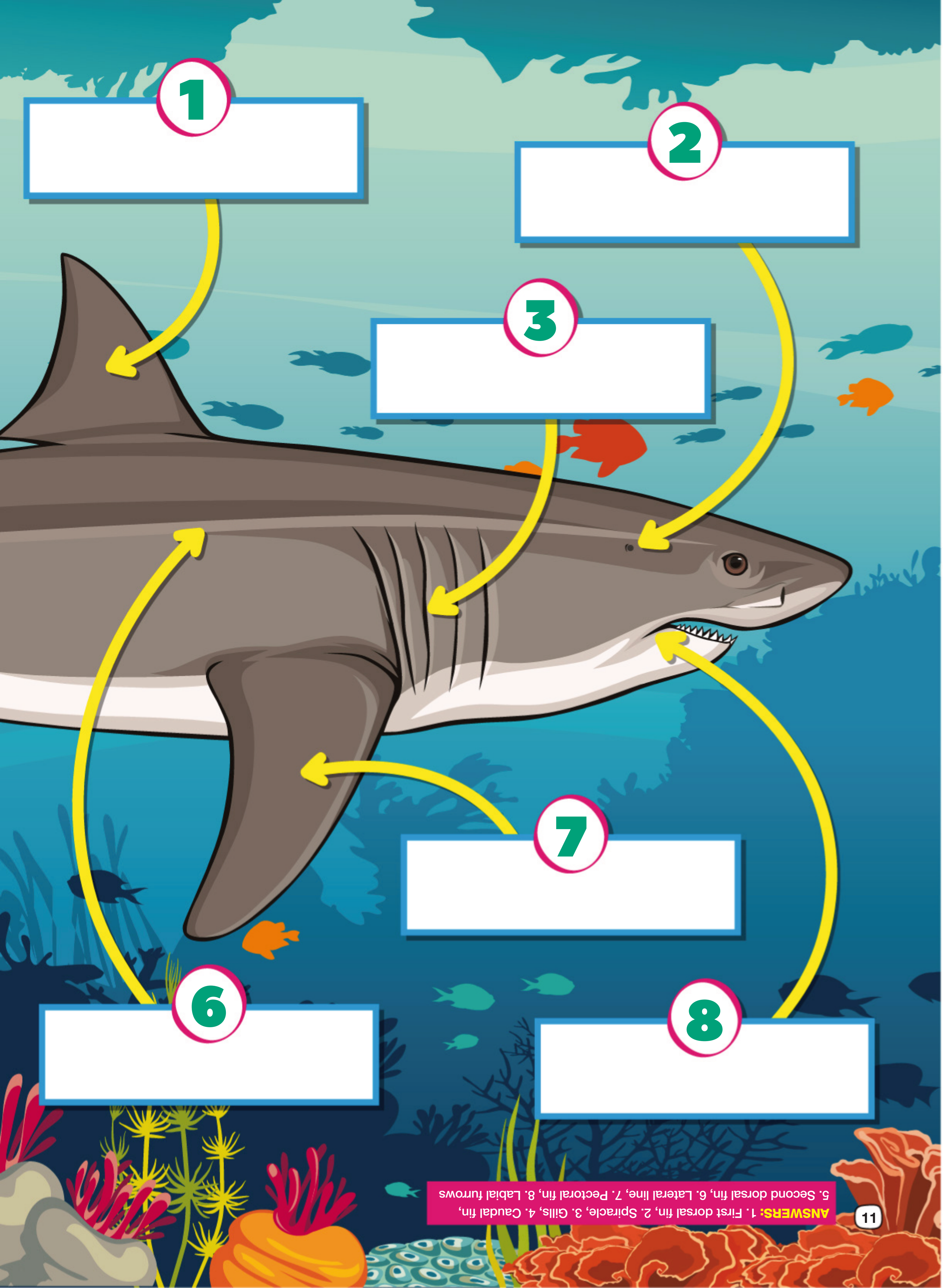
LATERAL LINE: A line down that center of the body that helps the shark feel things

PECTORAL FIN: Near the gills, it helps the shark steer

SECOND DORSAL FIN: Found close to the tail, the small fin helps the shark move the back of its body

SPIRACLE: An opening found behind the eye that brings oxygenated blood to the shark's eyes and brain

AZ 54DESIGN/SHUTTERSTOCK; NATALI SNAILCAT/SHUTTERSTOCK



ANSWERS: 1. First dorsal fin, 2. Spiracle, 3. Gills, 4. Caudal fin, 5. Second dorsal fin, 6. Lateral line, 7. Pectoral fin, 8. Labial furrows

Make croissant CRABS!

They're the perfect summertime breakfast!

CAREFUL: This recipe should be made with an adult.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoon active dry yeast
- ¼ cup cold water
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1½ cups whole milk
- 4½ cups flour
- 2 ½ sticks cold unsalted butter
- 1 large egg
- assorted fruit (banana slices, blueberries, strawberries or apples)

SHUTTERSTOCK / NEW AFRICA; SHUTTERSTOCK / ELENA SHASHKINA

DIRECTIONS:

1 Begin by dissolving the yeast in the water. In another bowl, dissolve sugar and salt in cold milk. Pour the yeast mixture into the milk mixture; stir to combine.

2 Next, add in the flour and mix. We recommend using a mixer with the dough hook on low speed.

3 Place the dough on a flat surface and knead it until it's totally smooth.

4 Put the dough back in the bowl and cover it with a dish towel. Let it sit on your counter for an hour to rise.

5 Place the sticks of butter between 2 pieces of cling wrap and use a rolling pin to flatten them into a rectangle.

6 Roll the dough into rectangle, then cover $^{2}/_{3}$ of it with the butter. Fold the dough into thirds (like you'd fold a piece of paper to put it in an envelope). Roll out the folded dough and then fold into thirds twice more. Afterwards, refrigerate the dough overnight.

7 The next day, roll out the dough into long rectangle and cut it into 16 triangles.

8 Cut a small slit into the wide end of the triangle. Roll each one up, starting from the wide end.

9 Place each croissant on a baking sheet a few inches apart. Stir the egg with 2 teaspoons of water to make an egg wash. Brush the egg wash on each croissant.

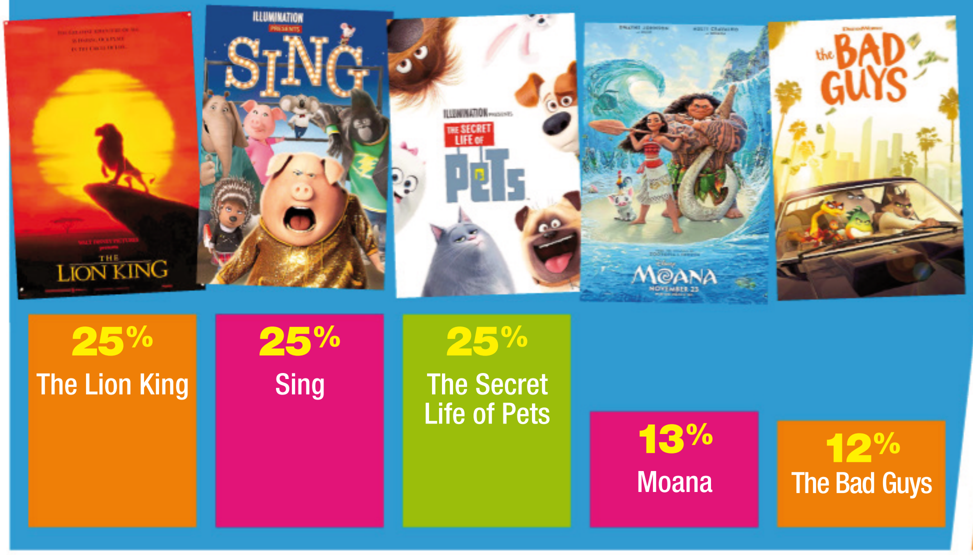
10 Bake at 400°F for 20 minutes or until the croissants look golden brown.

11 Once they're out of the oven, decorate as seen in the photos. Cut strawberries or apples to form the crab's claws and feet. Use banana slices and blueberries for the eyes. Time to eat!

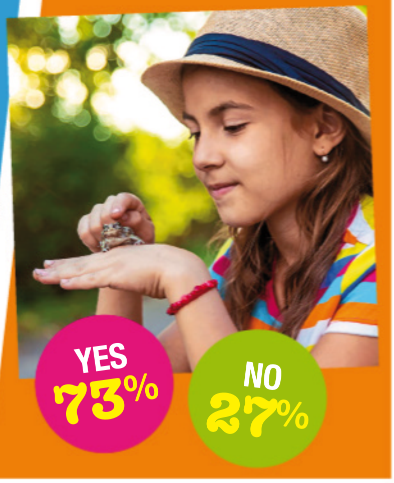
You SAID IT!

Check out the results of our latest poll!

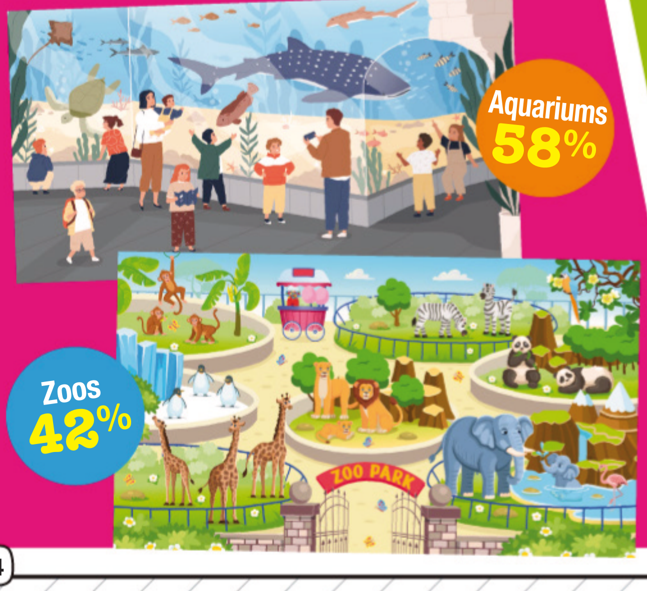
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE WITH AN ANIMAL CHARACTER?



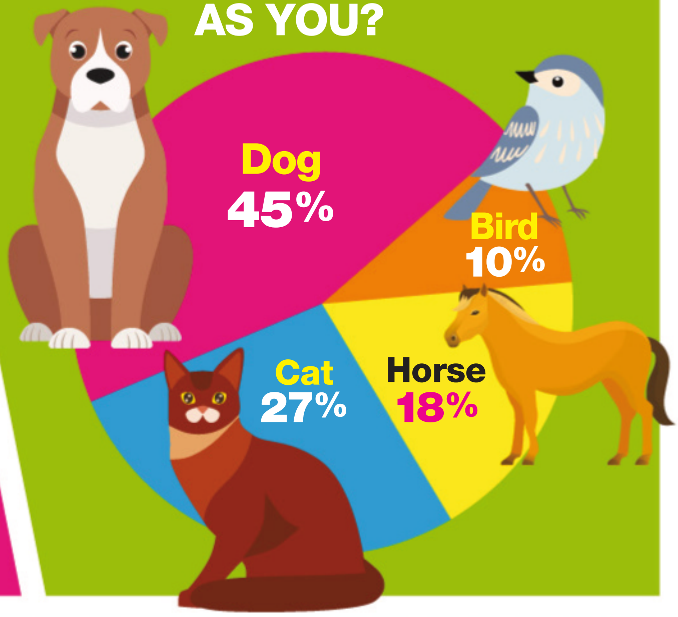
WOULD YOU HOLD A FROG IN YOUR HANDS?



WHICH DO YOU PREFER VISITING: ZOOS OR AQUARIUMS?



WHAT ANIMAL DO YOU THINK HAS THE SAME PERSONALITY AS YOU?

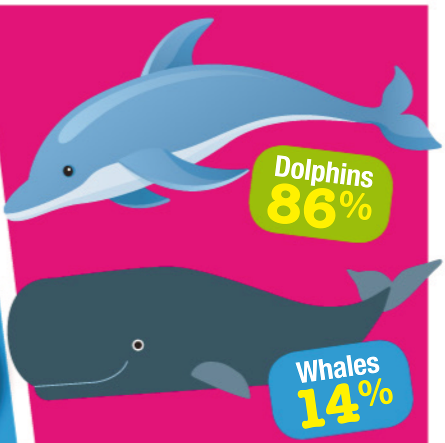


DISNEY (2); ILLUMINATION (2); DREAMWORKS; SHUTTERSTOCK/TATEVOSIAN YANA; GOOD STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK; YUCALORA/SHUTTERSTOCK; ANDREY1005/SHUTTERSTOCK; KITTYVECTOR/SHUTTERSTOCK (2); TN-PRINTS/SHUTTERSTOCK

HAVE YOU EVER TAKEN YOUR PET ON A FAMILY VACATION?

DOES YOUR DOG LIKE TO GO SWIMMING?

WHICH ANIMAL DO YOU LIKE BETTER: DOLPHINS OR WHALES?



HAVE YOU EVER TAKEN A SELFIE WITH AN ANIMAL?

GORILLA IMAGES/SHUTTERSTOCK; ANGKRIT/SHUTTERSTOCKWW; YG STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK; DARIA RIABETS/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK/MARTIN NOVAK

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE!

What is the best thing about having a pet?

What animal do you think would be the best student in school?

What animal would you like as a class pet?

What jungle animal do you like most?

Which do you like better: cats or dogs?

Would you try beekeeping?

Have you ever been to a butterfly garden?

Would you want a robot pet?

Are you a boy or a girl? Age:

SEND IN YOUR ANSWERS:

Fill in your answers above and email them to mail@animaltalesmag.com. Make sure to put “You Said It” in the subject line.

Animal Stories for your SUMMER READING LIST!

Calling all animal lovers: These books are perfect summer reads!

DON'T TRUST THE CAT by KRISTEN TRACY

Poppy is sick of getting bullied, so one day, she makes a wish for it all to stop. Luckily her wish comes true … kind of! The next day, she and her pet cat, Mitten Man, switch bodies. Now, the two will have to try to figure out their lives with new identities!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: Silly stories are your favorite! Bonus points if you consider yourself a cat person.

THE GREAT GIRAFFE RESCUE: SAVING THE NUBIAN GIRAFFES by SANDRA MARKLE

After oil is discovered at the homes of nearly all of the Nubian giraffes in Uganda, a team must find a way to move the giraffes across a river to safety. The only problem? Giraffes can't swim and there's no bridge for them to travel across!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like reading real-life stories, prefer shorter books or are curious about other parts of the world.

THE LION OF LARK-HAYES MANOR by AUBREY HARTMAN

When Poppy and her family movie to a new state, she suddenly feels invisible. Starting at a new middle school isn't easy, and that's why she counts on her two favorite things: magic and books. When she has a chance encounter with a magical nymph, she gets a new pet — a flying lion!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like reading fantasy books or learning about mythical creatures.

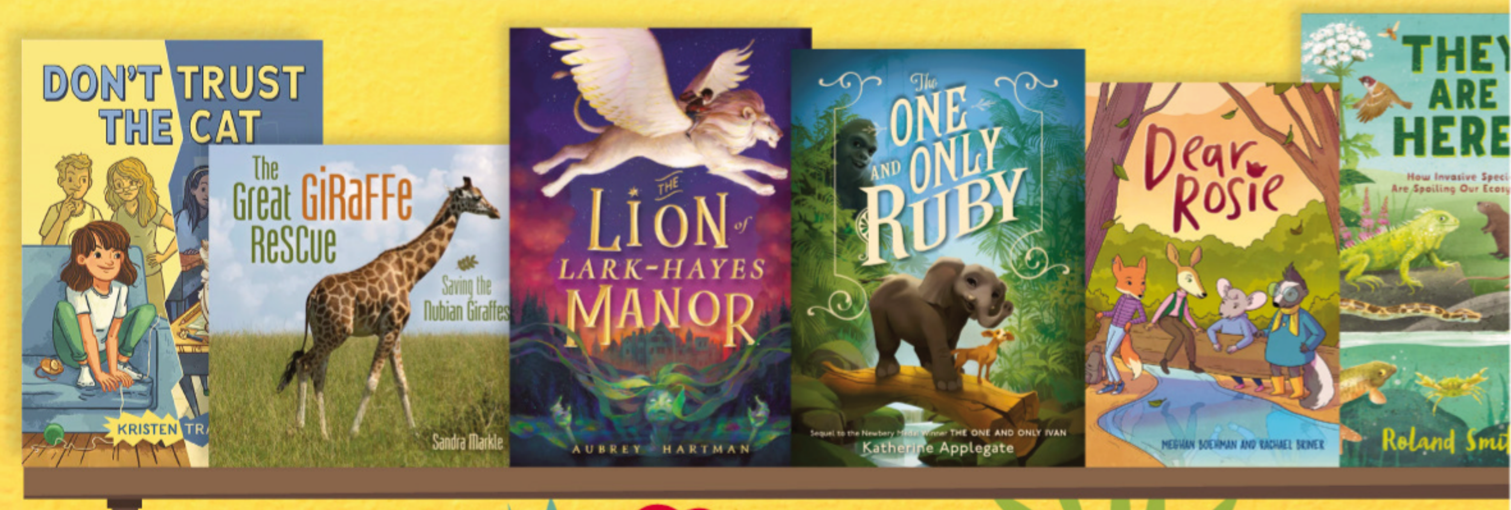
THE ONE AND ONLY RUBY by KATHERINE APPLEGATE

Ruby the baby elephant lives in a wildlife sanctuary with her friends Ivan and Bob. When her caretaker from her old home in Africa comes to visit, he reminds her of her life before the circus, and she has to share the stories with her friends!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You enjoyed *The One and Only Ivan* and *The One and Only Bob*.

DEAR ROSIE by MEGHAN BOEHMAN AND RACHAEL BRINER

A group of pre-teen animal best friends come together to solve the mystery of an abandoned notebook in this graphic novel. They'll experience things they


DON'T TRUST THE CAT
KRISTEN TR
The Great GiRaFFe ReScue
Saving the Nubian Giraffes
Sandra Markle
THE LION of LARK-HAYES MANOR
AUBREY HARTMAN
The ONE AND ONLY RUBY
THE ONE AND ONLY IVAN
Katherine Applegate
Dear Rosie
MEGHAN BOEHMAN AND RACHAEL BRINER
THEY ARE HERE
Roland Smi

never expected as the go on the journey to discover the meaning of the notebook.

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like graphic novels and books that have a mystery to solve.

THEY ARE HERE! HOW INVASIVE SPECIES ARE SPOILING OUR ECOSYSTEMS by ROLAND SMITH

All over the world, there are animals that are non-native species. That means they were taken from their original homes and brought to new ones. Sometimes, that can cause problems for our ecosystem and this book will tell you all about it!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You love learning new animal facts.

HARU, ZOMBIE DOG HERO by ELLEN OH

Luke's dog Haru is his best friend. When Haru gets sent to a laboratory in town, he's given a serum that everyone believes is dangerous. What they don't know is that the serum turns Haru into a zombie dog that's as kind and lovable as he's always been!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like movies like *Frankenweenie* or *Paranorman*.

THE BAWK-NESS MONSTER by NATALIE RIESS AND SARA GOETTER

Penny believes that half sea serpent, half chicken monster named Bawk-ness really exists, and she's determined to see it in real life! Along with her friends, Penny goes on an adventure to find the Bawk-ness in this graphic novel.

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like reading adventure books that make you feel like you're part of the story.

MAGIC TREEHOUSE: RHINOS AT RECESS by MARY POPE OSBORNE

It's a normal day at recess for Annie and Jack ... until they to go to the magic tree house. When they get there, they're transported to South Africa, where they have to work together to help save rhinos from evil poachers!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You're fan of *Magic Treehouse* books or dream of going on a safari tour.

SCURRY by MAC SMITH

Follow a colony of mice as they work together to survive in a world where there are no humans to help provide them with scraps of food to eat! Things are dangerous, especially with feral cats roaming their home. Find out if the mice can scurry away in time!

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like the *Warriors* series or reading about heroic characters.

SAVE THE BLUE WHALES by CHRISTINE TAYLOR-BUTLER

In this book, you'll learn everything you need to know to become a blue whale expert! From fun facts to information about how they communicate, this is a great read for any animal lover. Plus, you'll learn how you can help save blue whales from the endangered species list.

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You're interested in animal conservation.

NO MATTER THE DISTANCE by CINDY BALDWIN

One day, Penny spots the impossible: a dolphin swimming in the creek near her home! When she learns that she has more in common with the dolphin than she expected, she makes it her mission to help it get back to the ocean.

YOU'LL LOVE THIS BOOK IF: You like heartwarming stories about families or your favorite animal is a dolphin.

CHRONICLE BOOKS; MILLBROOK PRESS; LITTLE, BROWN BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS; HARPERCOLLINS (2); KNOPF BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS; HENRY HOLT AND CO; FIRST SECOND; RANDOM HOUSE BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS; IMAGE COMICS; PHILOMEL BOOKS; QUILL TREE BOOKS

HARU
ZOMBIE DOG HERO
ELLEN OH
Cryptid Kids
THE BAWK-NESS MONSTER
SARA GOETTER & NATALIE RIESS
MARY POPE OSBORNE
MAGIC TREE HOUSE
#37 RHINOS AT RECESS
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING SERIES
SCURRY
MAC SMITH
save the . . .
BLUE WHALES
Christine Taylor-Butler
No Matter the Distance
CINDY BALDWIN

What's your POOL FLOAT PERSONALITY?

Find out how you should float into summer!

Which sea creature would you rather read about?

Mermaids

Whales

You're more likely to invite your friends over for a backyard:

Barbecue

Luau

True or false: You can have a blast hanging out alone?

False

True

If all your buds were buying the same bathing suit, you'd:

Have to have it, too

Pick a different one

You and your BFF are bored at the beach. You suggest:

Making up a new game

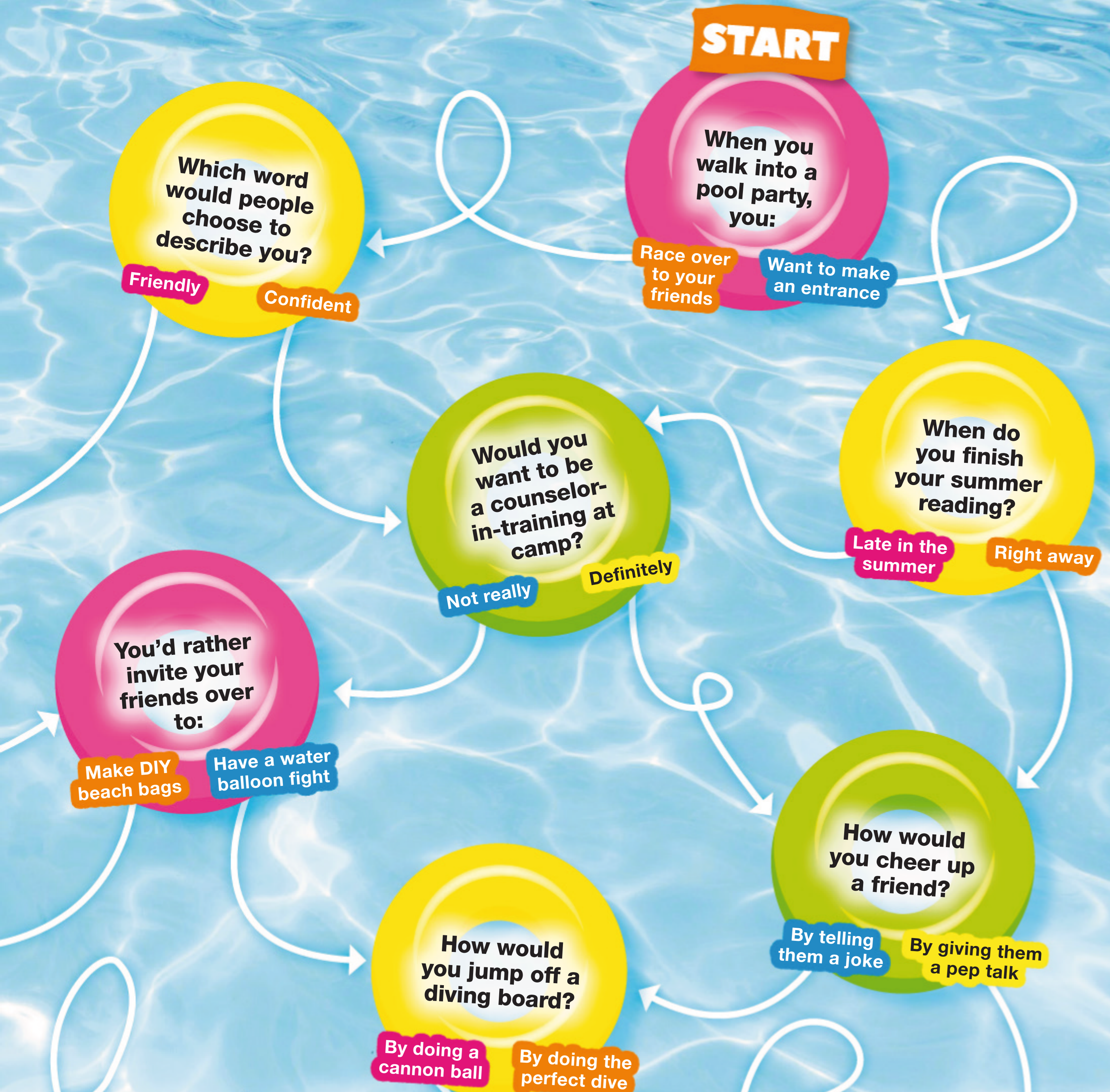
Playing volleyball

DUCK

You never see a duck without its crew. Sounds familiar, right? Your friends mean everything to you, and you spend as much time with them as possible! You're known for being outgoing and approachable, which means everyone wants to be buds with you. Plan a pool day with your pals and show off your float choice!

UNICORN

A one-of-a-kind kid like you needs a unicorn float! You do things your own way and you never let other people's opinions affect yours. You probably aren't surprised you ended up with the mythical creature option because you see the magic in everything — even in ordinary, everyday life.



START

When you walk into a pool party, you:

- Race over to your friends
- Want to make an entrance

Which word would people choose to describe you?

- Friendly
- Confident

When do you finish your summer reading?

- Late in the summer
- Right away

Would you want to be a counselor-in-training at camp?

- Not really
- Definitely

You'd rather invite your friends over to:

- Make DIY beach bags
- Have a water balloon fight

How would you cheer up a friend?

- By telling them a joke
- By giving them a pep talk

How would you jump off a diving board?

- By doing a cannon ball
- By doing the perfect dive

DOLPHIN

Dolphins always look like they're having a good time — and so do you! You have a great sense of humor and a very playful personality. You love telling jokes, playing harmless pranks and planning fun activities to do with friends. People love being around your optimistic energy!

FLAMINGO

Your personality is as bold as a flamingo's bright pink feathers! You believe in yourself, and it's very difficult to shake your confidence. You have a long list of goals you want to achieve. While you have a lot going on, you know you can balance it all — just like a flamingo does in its signature pose!

NEW AFRICA/SHUTTERSTOCK; ON_FRANCE/SHUTTERSTOCK; GOSTEVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; MVELISHCHUK/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK; BOKEH BLUR BACKGROUND/SHUTTERSTOCK

FUN in the SUN

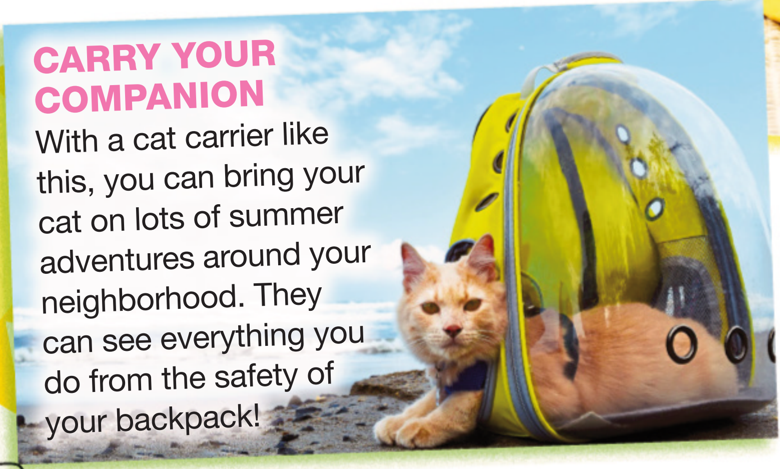
Make sure your pet has a blast this summer!

ROLL DOWN THE WINDOWS

Heading on a road trip with your dog this summer? Let your pup pop their head out the window! Dogs love feeling the wind in their fur and sniffing the unfamiliar scents.

MAKE FROZEN TREATS

You can't give your dog the same ice cream you eat, but you can make mix together some plain yogurt and peanut butter, then freeze it in ice cube trays. Cats, on the other hand, will enjoy shaved ice. Blend a few ice cubes together — you can also add a little water from a can of tuna if want — and serve it to them in a dish.



CARRY YOUR COMPANION

With a cat carrier like this, you can bring your cat on lots of summer adventures around your neighborhood. They can see everything you do from the safety of your backpack!

GET SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Did you know that there are some hotels and vacation house rentals that allow you to bring your pet along with you? Ask a parent about looking into that!

CREATE A LOUNGE SPOT

Humans love lounging in a hammock in their backyard during the warm weather months — and cats do, too! Cat hammocks are popular purchases at pet stores because cats enjoy the swinging motion. Plus, it's fun for curious cats to check out everything around them from the safety of their hammock.

GROW A GARDEN

Cat grass helps kitties digest their food and it provides key nutrients. Plus, cats really seem to love it. So why not grow some for your feline friend this summer? You can find a kit for it online or at your local pet store.

PLAN A BEACH DAY

Your pet will love a change of scenery for its daily exercise! You can take long walks along the sand and cool off in the water afterwards.

SOAK UP THE SUN

Both dogs and cats often enjoy laying in spots where the sunshine streams in. It makes them feel warm and cozy. Vets believe that domestic cats especially enjoy the sun because they descend from Egyptian wild cats, which are desert animals.

TEACH THEM TO DOGGY PADDLE

If you're trying to get your dog to swim for the first time, help them move into the water gradually. You'll want to give them lots of praise and positive reinforcement as they do. However, if your pup ever seems uncomfortable, we recommend going to a shallower part of the pool or getting out altogether. You can try again when they're ready.

LET THEM FLOAT

It's often said that cats hate water, but that isn't true for some cat breeds, including Maine coons and bengals. All cats can instinctively swim, but they may not want to. Follow their lead and if you do bring your cat into a pool, make sure you're watching them the whole time.

LEVENTEGYORI/SHUTTERSTOCK; THE DOG PHOTOGRAPHER/SHUTTERSTOCK; SOFIRINAJA/SHUTTERSTOCK; NEW AFRICA/SHUTTERSTOCK; NATASHA ZAKHAROVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; STOCKNADIA/SHUTTERSTOCK; KUBAN_GIRL/SHUTTERSTOCK; ALLASAA/SHUTTERSTOCK; PONG471/SHUTTERSTOCK; CHENDONGSHAN/SHUTTERSTOCK

STAY HYDRATED

You don't want to let your pets get overheated, so make sure you bring water for them anytime they're going to be outside for an extended period of time on a super-sunny day.

PLAY IN THE SPRINKLER

Pets who love being active and playing games will love your sprinkler. Show them how you jump in and out of the water spray to teach them what to do.

TEACH THEM A NEW TRICK

Looking for a fun new way to spend a summer day? Teach your dog how to do something new, like catching a frisbee. You'll need to be patient — your pup will likely let the flying disc fall to the ground many times before catching it in the air. That's okay!

PLAY BEACH HIDE-AND-SEEK

If you have a pup who can be trusted to be off leash at the beach, this will be an exciting game for you. Hide things your pet pooch loves – toys, bones, treats — in the sand. Let them run around to sniff and then dig them out!

LET THEM COOL OFF

While your cat or dog may love catching some rays, getting overheated is no fun. Make sure there are plenty of cool spots in your home for them to escape the heat.

KRISTESORO/SHUTTERSTOCK; VERA REVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; NEW AFRICA/SHUTTERSTOCK; JNE VALOKUVAUS/SHUTTERSTOCK; NINA BUDAY/SHUTTERSTOCK; ROB HAINER/SHUTTERSTOCK

TEST YOUR SUMMER PET CARE IQ!

Answer these questions, then check them in the key below.

1 What's the most important thing to take with you when you go places with your pet?

A. Pet sunglasses
B. Water
C. A ball for them to play with

2 What's the best time of day to play outside with your pet?

A. Early morning or evening
B. Noon
C. Mid-afternoon

3 Should you shave your pet's coat?

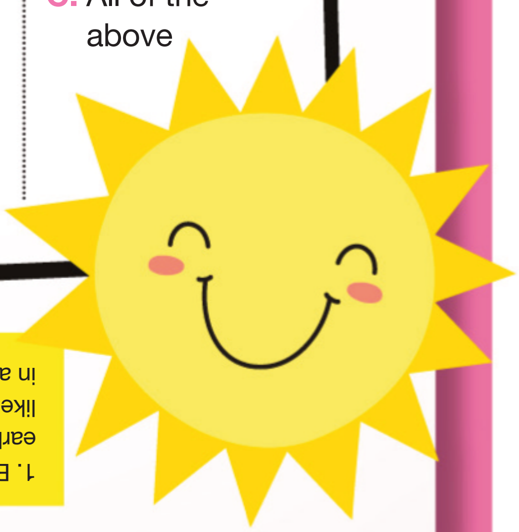
A. No
B. Yes
C. Only if he's long-haired

4 How long is it okay to leave your pet alone in the car?

A. 5 minutes
B. 30 minutes
C. No time at all

5 What's a great way to keep your pet cool outside?

A. Find them plenty of tree shade
B. Put ice cubes in their water
C. All of the above



1. B, water is the most important because pets get dehydrated easily; 2. A, early morning or early evening are when it's coolest; 3. A, your pet's coat acts like a cooling system by protecting him from the heat; 4. C, it can get really hot in a parked car, so it's not safe for pets; 5. C, both of these options will help.

Animal Tales'

STRIPED SPEC

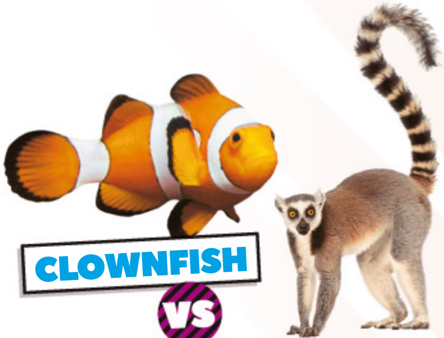
Earn your stripes with this fun activity!

TIGER VS **OKAPI**

Your pick:

VS

Your pick:



CLOWNFISH VS **RING-TAILED LEMUR**

Your pick:

VS

Your pick:

TABBY CAT VS **CHIPMUNK**

Your pick:

VS

Your pick:

Your

SKUNK VS **CORAL SNAKE**

Your pick:

IES SHOWDOWN

DIRECTIONS: For each bracketed pair, pick the animal you prefer. Repeat with each pairing on both pages until you get your answer in the middle.

ZEBRA VS **BONGO**

Your pick:

VS

Your pick:

STRIPED MARLIN VS **HYENA**

Your pick:

VS

Your pick:

AARDWOLF VS **NUMBAT**

Your pick:

VS

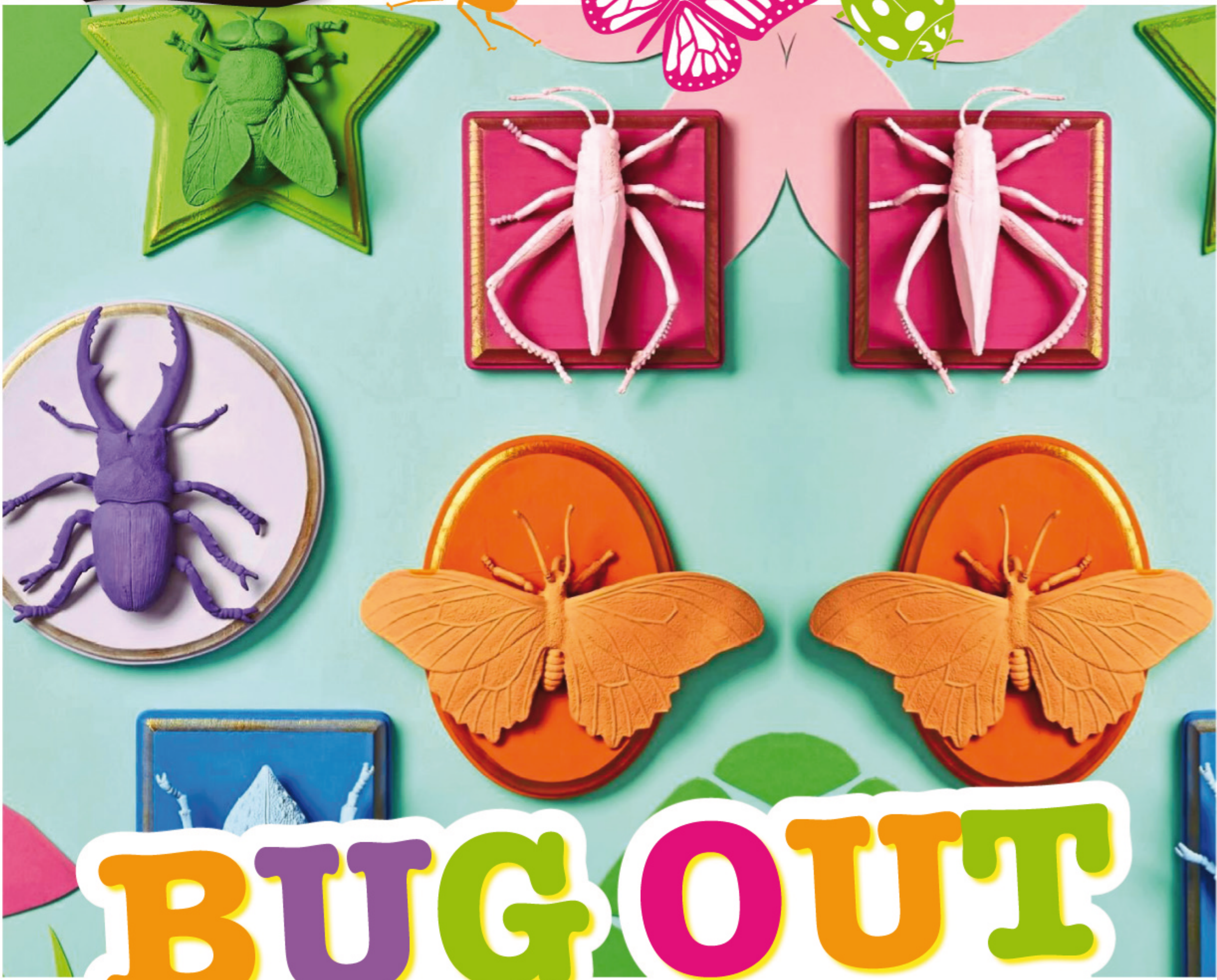
Your pick:

fave!

BUMBLEBEE VS **ANGELFISH**

Your pick:

SHUTTERSTOCK/NATTANAN726; SHUTTERSTOCK/
ERIC ISSELEE (4); SHUTTERSTOCK/STOCKPIX4U;
SHUTTERSTOCK/STEVE HEAP; SHUTTERSTOCK/
NYNKE VAN HOLTEN; SHUTTERSTOCK/
PATRICK K. CAMPBELL; SHUTTERSTOCK/
PRAPASS; SHUTTERSTOCK/PAUL BRENNAN;
SHUTTERSTOCK/REALITYIMAGES;
SHUTTERSTOCK/JOE MCDONALD;
SHUTTERSTOCK/KEN GRIFFITHS; SHUTTERSTOCK/
ART VICTORIA; SHUTTERSTOCK/MIROSLAV
HALAMA; IVANGIRL/SHUTTERSTOCK

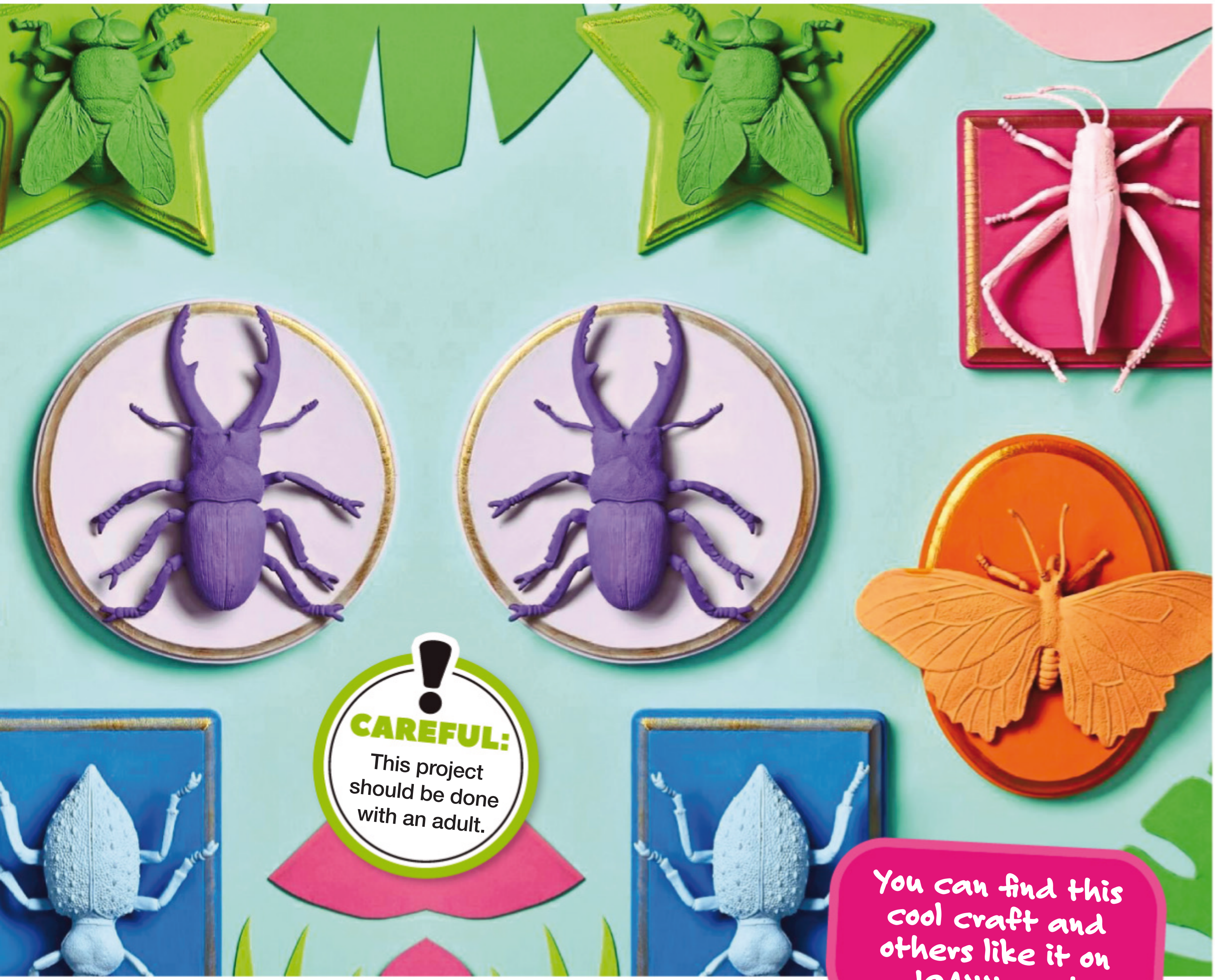


BUG OUT OVER THIS CRAFT FOR YOUR ROOM!

Hang these on your walls!

What you'll need:

- blank wood surfaces
- oversized plastic insects
- acrylic craft paint
- medium paint brush
- water jar
- damp cloth
- hot glue gun
- sawtooth picture hanger



CAREFUL: This project should be done with an adult.

You can find this cool craft and others like it on JOANN.com!

Directions:

1. Paint the blank wood surfaces, then set them aside. Apply a second coat when dry if necessary.
2. Attach the hanger to the back of the boards according to the directions on the hanger box.
3. Paint the bugs a color that's similar to the one you painted the wood surface, but a shade that's a little lighter or darker. For example, if the wood board is magenta, paint the insect light pink or vice versa. Insects may require multiple coats, depending on paint coverage.
4. When the insects and wood backers are dry, apply hot glue to the bug bodies first and hot glue to the board.
5. Finally, hot glue down feet and antennae in the desired position.
6. Let the glue dry overnight. Ask an adult to help you hang the displays wherever you'd like!

WE ♥ Otters

Learn all about these curious creatures!

These two buddies are sea otters.

Otters are marine mammals that are known for being super-silly! Their curious faces and their charismatic behaviors have helped them win over the hearts of so many animal lovers. To find out more about them, *Animal Tales* asked Lisa Melnik, a wild animal keeper at the Akron Zoo in Ohio, to give us all the otter info!

OTTER TYPES

There are 13 different species of otter across the globe, but only two of them live in North America. "[There are] sea otters that live along the coast, and North American river otters that live in streams and rivers," Lisa tells us. "All otters are mustelids, meaning they're related to skunks, weasels and ferrets." It can be *otterly* confusing to differentiate between sea otters and river otters, but their main differences are found in their sizes, their fur and their swimming styles.

Sea otters are larger, have thicker fur and are known for floating around in the water on their backs. Lisa says sea otters will even fall asleep while floating at the water's surface, but river otters do not float on their backs and will stick to land for naptime. "River otters prefer to sleep under their hollow logs on land rather than in the water," she shares.

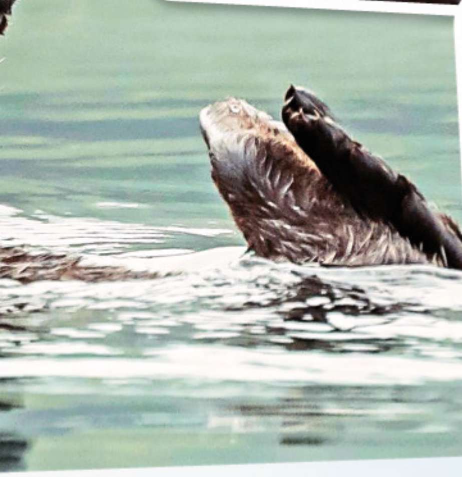
FUR SHIELD

Both sea otters and river otters have special fur. Unlike other marine mammals that rely on a thick layer of blubber to insulate them from cold waters, otters have their extremely thick pelts (skin and fur). "When North American river otters dive under water, air is actually trapped between two layers of fur," Lisa says. "That layer of air acts as insulation to keep them warm. They stay completely comfortable no matter what the water temperature is!"

Like river otters, sea otters' fur also acts as insulation. In fact, their fur is so thick, their actual skin never even gets wet despite living their entire lives in the ocean! Unfortunately, otters' lush fur also nearly led to their extinction: In the 18th and 19th centuries, their pelts were

LAURA HEDIEN/SHUTTERSTOCK; DEAN CLARKE/SHUTTERSTOCK; JONATHAN CHANCASANA/SHUTTERSTOCK; VALENTINA VECTORS/SHUTTERSTOCK; ERIC ISSELEE/SHUTTERSTOCK

River otters like these two have fun on land.



used to make coats and other outerwear. "They were previously hunted for their pelts almost to the point of extinction," Lisa reveals.

HUMAN THREATS

Even today, humans are still the biggest threat to otters' existence. "Most otter species do not have many natural predators," Lisa explains. "They are extremely flexible and quick in the water which makes them very hard to catch and they also have very sharp teeth and claws which they can use to defend themselves if needed." However, humans have had a detrimental impact on otters. Pollution of our waterways has hurt otters and their food sources.

But Lisa says there are ways to help. She suggests supporting conservation and breeding programs such as the Species Survival Plan (SSP) in zoos. You can also visit defenders.org to find out what you can do to protect and preserve the otter population.

Icky Info!

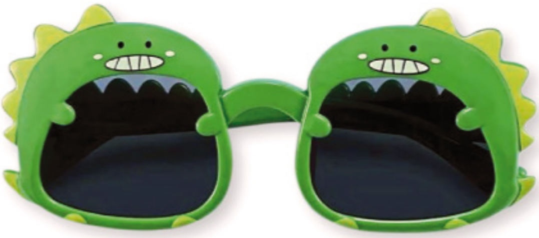
Otters have special poop!

Otters are known for their unique — and especially stinky — feces, called spraints. "They have very stinky poop," Lisa says. "The stink comes from the fact that they eat a lot of fish." But their poop's distinct smell actually serves a very specific purpose. "The scent can communicate various information to other otters," Lisa says. That's right! Each spraint has a particular smell, so otters use their poop to relay messages to one another. Over 100 different scent components of otter dropping have been identified. An otter can simply sniff a pile of poop to find out information about the otter that left it. Weird — but kind of cool!

I thought we were keeping this a secret!

SUMMER ESSENTIALS for Animal Lovers!

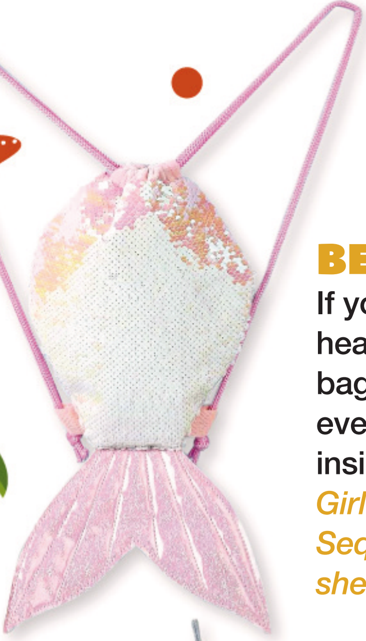
Have the best summer break ever!



STEGOSAURUS SHADES

Keep the sun out of your eyes with these dynamite dinosaur sunglasses.

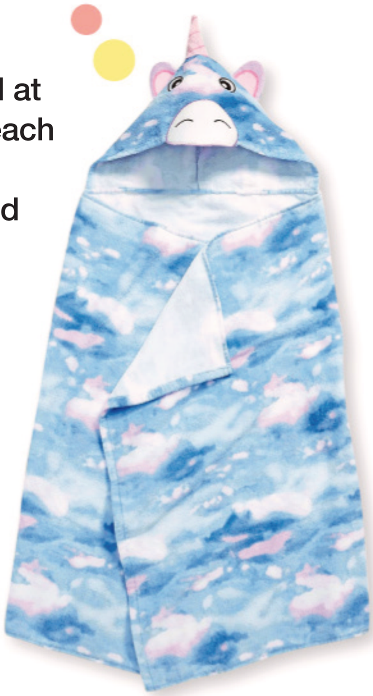
Kids' Cartoon Design Fashion Glasses, $5, shein.com



BEACH BAG

If you're a mermaid at heart, this is the beach bag for you! Pack everything you need inside.

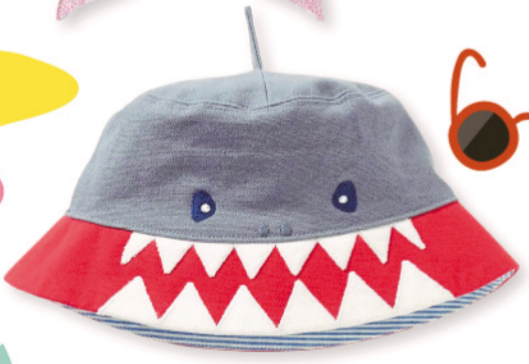
Girls' Novelty Bag Sequin Decor, $4, shein.com



TERRIFIC TOWEL

Unique unicorns can wrap themselves up in this towel after a dip in the pool or ocean.

Hooded Critter Beach Towel for Kids, $18, oldnavy.com



HAMMERHEAD HAT

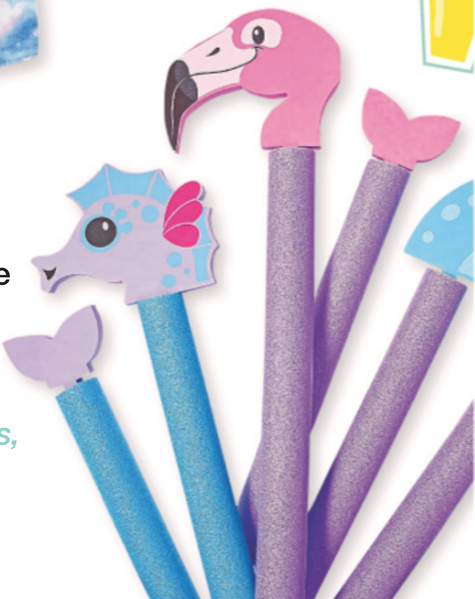
The sharp teeth and stand-up fin make this bucket hat a must-buy.

Novelty Bucket Hat Grey Shark, $16, bodenusa.com

NICE NOODLES

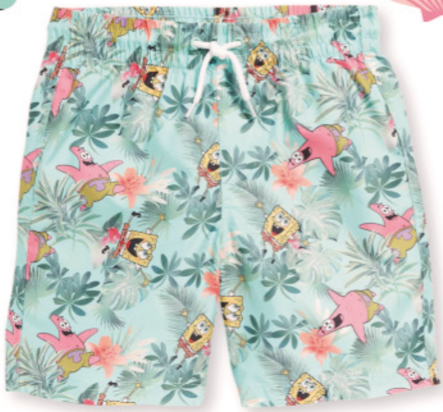
Swim among the fishes when you attach these cool creature heads and tails to your pool noodles.

Fun Express Assorted Colors Flamingo Noodle Attachments, $17, walmart.com



PINK POOL

Don't have a pool in your yard? You can change that with this fun flamingo splash spot. *Splash Buddies Inflatable Kiddie Swimming Pool, $35, amazon.com*

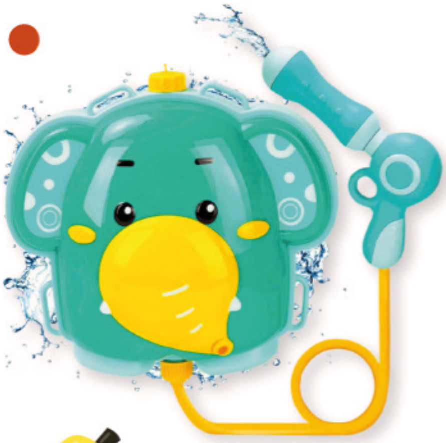


SPONGEBOB SWIMSUIT

Dreamed of living in a pineapple under the sea? This suit will have you feeling one step closer! *Licensed Pop-Culture Graphic Swim Trunk for Boys, $30, oldnavy.com*

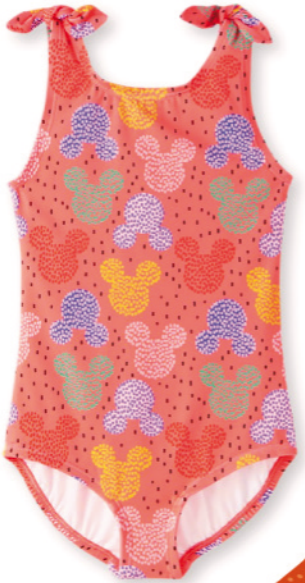
WATER WARS

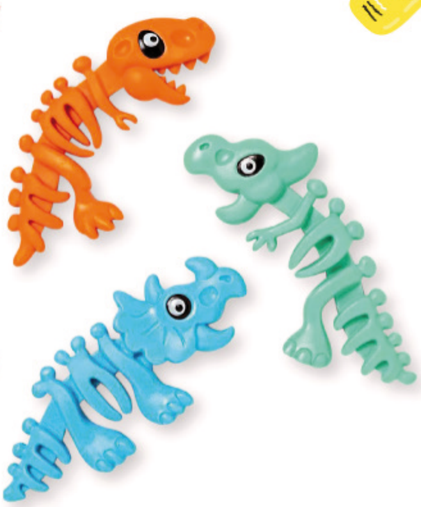
Don't get in a water fight without this backpack squirt gun! Fill up the elephant and play with your buds. *Toy Life Backpack Water Gun for Kids, $13, amazon.com*



DISNEY DREAM

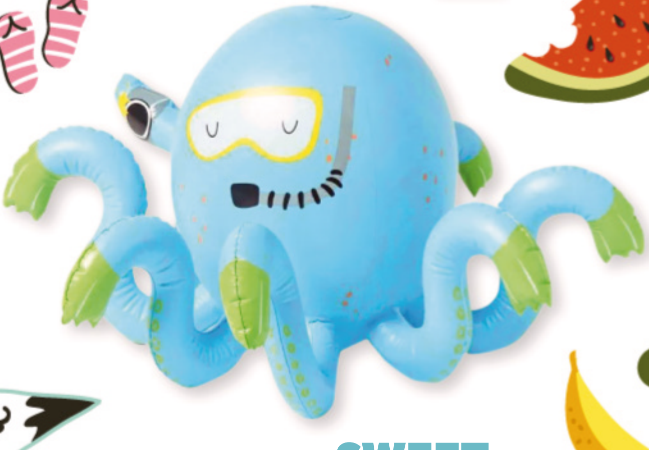
Girls will look ready to join The Mickey Mouse Club with this one-piece suit. *Disney Mickey Mouse Vacation One Piece Swimsuit, $35, hannaandersson.com*





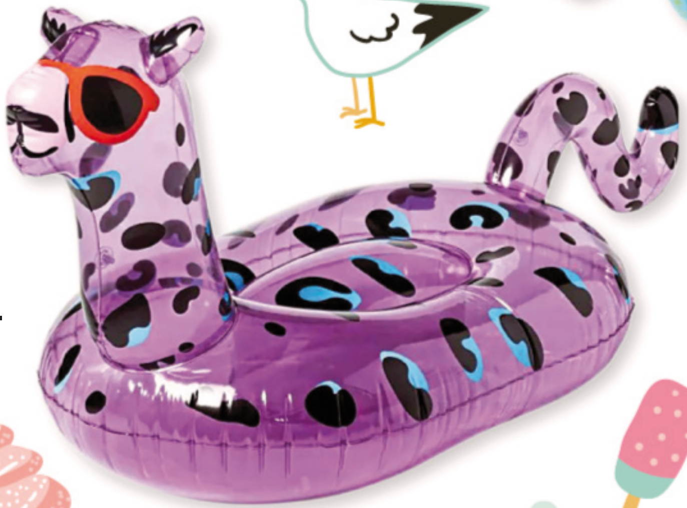
DINO DIVERS

Go swimming for fossils! Toss these dinosaur dive sticks into your pool, then swim to get them. *Sun Squad Dino Diver 3-Pack, $10, target.com*



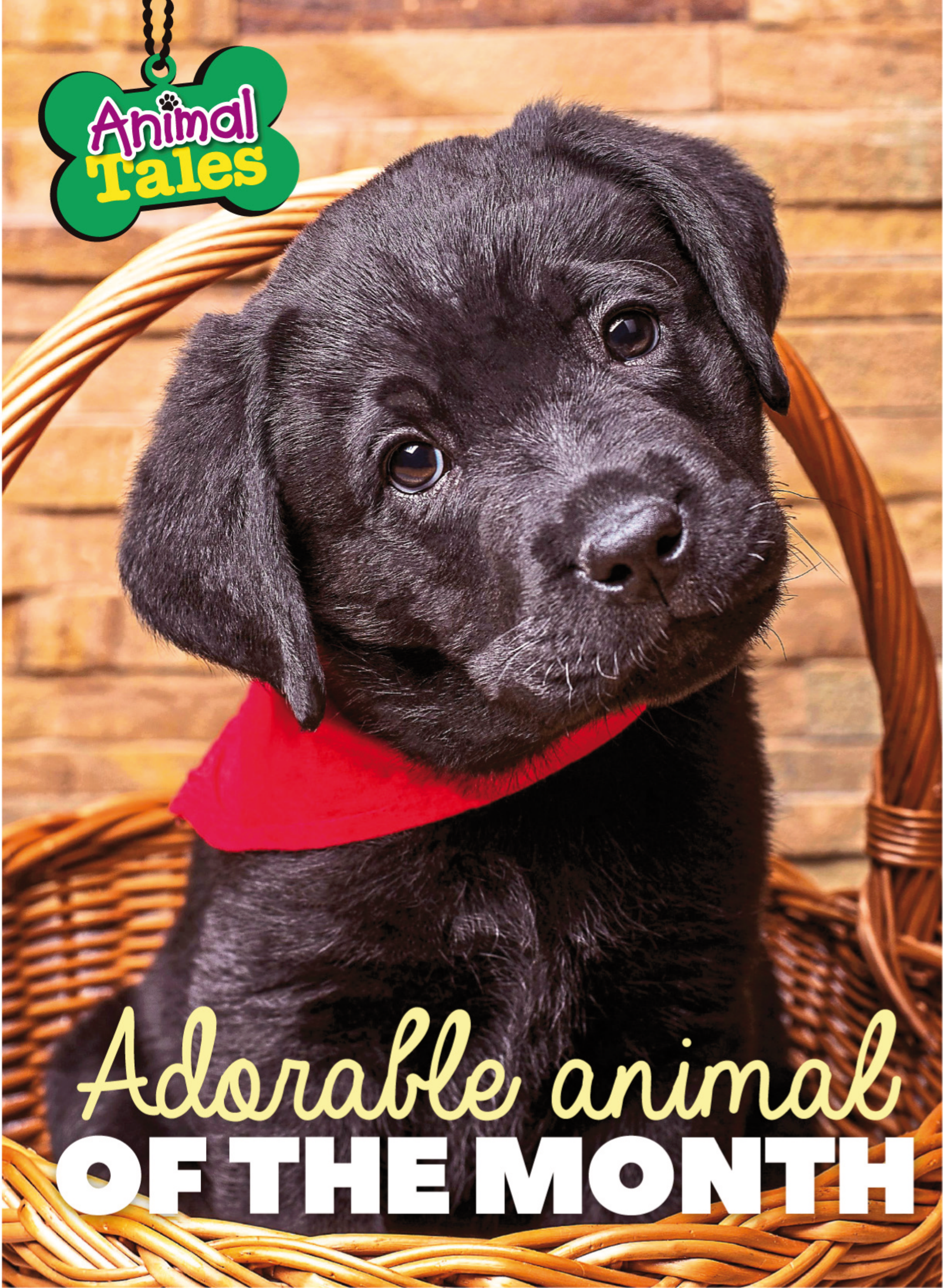
FUN FLOAT

Let them see you roar! Bring this leopard float to the pool or the beach and lounge around. *Sun Squad Pool Float Purple Leopard, $20, target.com*



SWEET SPRINKLER

This snorkeling octopus is actually a sprinkler! Fasten your hose to it and watch water squirt from the top. *Sun Squad Octopus Sprinkler, $20, target.com*



Adorable animal OF THE MONTH

PICK THE NEXT WINNER!

CUT OUT AND KEEP!

FUN FACT! Pay attention if your kitten is eating grass. That's a likely sign that its stomach is upset.

FUN FACT! Did you know that puppies are considered adults when they're between one and two years old?

FUN FACT! A pig's sense of smell is super-strong. It's 2,000 times more sensitive than a human's!

FUN FACT! There are over 800 species of tree frogs found on every continent in the world — except for Antarctica.

Vote for your favorite!

SEND US YOUR VOTE!

Select the most adorable animal and email your vote to mail@animaltalesmag.com with "Animal of the Month" in the subject line.

○ KITTEN

○ PUPPY

○ PIG

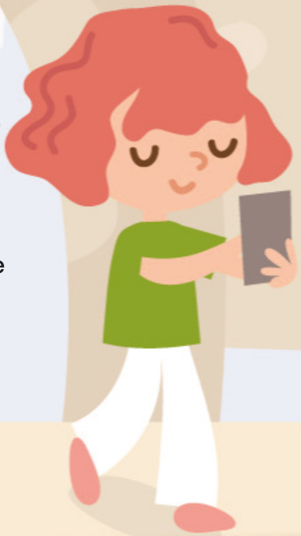
○ FROG

GLUSHCHENKO NATALIIA/SHUTTERSTOCK; ANNA ANDERSSON FOTOGRAFI/SHUTTERSTOCK; PAVLINA TRAUSKEOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; SERGII FIGURNYI/SHUTTERSTOCK; KURIT AFSHEN/SHUTTERSTOCK

Your Day at the ZOO!

Keep a record of all the cool things you learn during your next zoo trip!

DIRECTIONS: After your trip to the zoo, cut out the pages below. You'll want to fill your name in on the title page. For the other pages, glue or tape your photos into the proper spots. After, write all the cool things you learned about each animal. We chose four of our favorite animals already, but we also gave you a blank page to write about any animal you choose. We recommend copying the blank page so you can add as many pages to your book as you wish. When you're done with all of your pages, punch holes at the top of each one and tie them together with a string.



______________'S

trip to the

ZOO!

DATE: ______________

Cut and paste a pic here!

Lion

What I learned about lions: ______________

____

The coolest thing that happened at the lion exhibit was: ______________

____

OLGA1818/SHUTTERSTOCK; JOSEPPERIANES/SHUTTERSTOCK

Cut and paste a pic here!

Giraffe

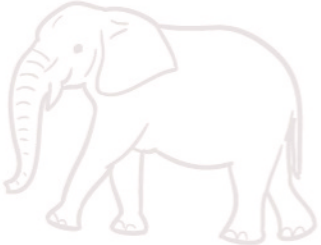
What I learned about giraffes: ________

____

The coolest thing that happened at the giraffe exhibit was: ________

____

Cut and paste a pic here!



Elephant

What I learned about elephants: ________

____

The coolest thing that happened at the elephant exhibit was: ________

____

Cut and paste a pic here!

Tiger

What I learned about tigers: ________

____

The coolest thing that happened at the tiger exhibit was: ________

____

Cut and paste a pic here!

____

What I learned about ________

____

The coolest thing that happened at the exhibit was: ________

____

What's your FROG NAME?

Follow the steps below. Seriously, *hop* to it!

1. Find the first letter of your first name:

A – Leaping
B – Funny
C – Slippery
D – Tiny
E – Speckled
F – Slimy
G – Sneaky
H – Greenie
I – Energetic
J – Wiggly
K – Fearless
L – Sparkly
M – Giant
N – Mighty
O – Curious
P – Hungry
Q – Friendly
R – Charming
S – Lucky
T – Jumpy
U – Silly
V – Prickly
W – Clever
X – Wacky
Y – Sleepy
Z – Happy

2. Find your birth month:

January – Ribbit
February – Pollywog
March – Croak
April – Amphibian
May – Hopper
June – Frogtastic
July – Sticky Tongue
August – Swimmerson
September – Web-Foot
October – Strong Legs
November – Bug-Eater
December – Tadpole

My frog name is:

MA_NUD_SEN/SHUTTERSTOCK

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AMT V38AAF

Pet Sitting 101

Become the best pet sitter in town with our tips!

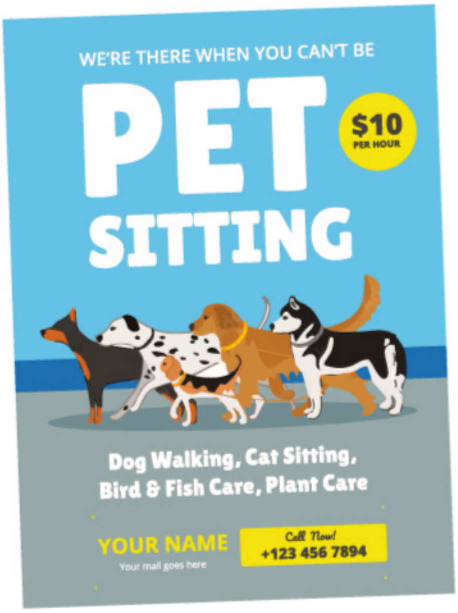
If you've ever wanted to start pet sitting but aren't sure how to get started, we've got you covered! From studying up on how to look after animals to getting your name out there, you'll discover what it takes to be an all-star sitter — read on to find out more!

START SMALL

If this is your first time, it's a good idea to only watch one pet at a time — and one that's not too big for you to handle!

BE INFORMED

Watching someone's pet is a big responsibility, so read books that focus on animal care beforehand. Then, ask an adult to quiz you so you know you're ready!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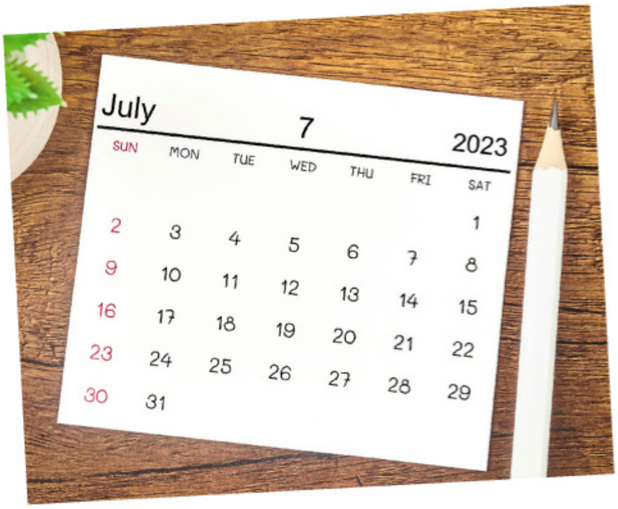
SPREAD THE WORD

In order for pet parents to know about your services, you need to clearly advertise what you're offering! Use this poster as a guide for your own.

MY GOLDEN LIFE/SHUTTERSTOCK; PROSTOCK-STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK; GENTLE GRAPHIX/SHUTTERSTOCK; PENPICS STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK;
KDDESIGNPHOTO/SHUTTERSTOCK; LIGHTFIELD STUDIOS/SHUTTERSTOCK; PRESSMASTER/SHUTTERSTOCK; SANDAMALI F/SHUTTERSTOCK



MAKE SURE YOU'RE FREE

If you're unsure about your schedule, getting jobs might be tricky. Setting a schedule — and sticking to it — is something all great sitters do! Plus, having lots of availability makes you more likely to get calls from pet parents who need your services — especially at the last minute.

GIVE ADDED BENEFITS

If you really want to impress pet parents, let them know that you'd be happy to do more than just walk and watch their pet. Offer other services, like bathing, while you're on the job to make yourself stand out.

SPEND QUALITY TIME

One of the most important things you can do is bond with the pet you want to sit — and its owners. This will show the pet's parents that you're trustworthy and responsible, as well as help the pet feel more comfortable around you, too!

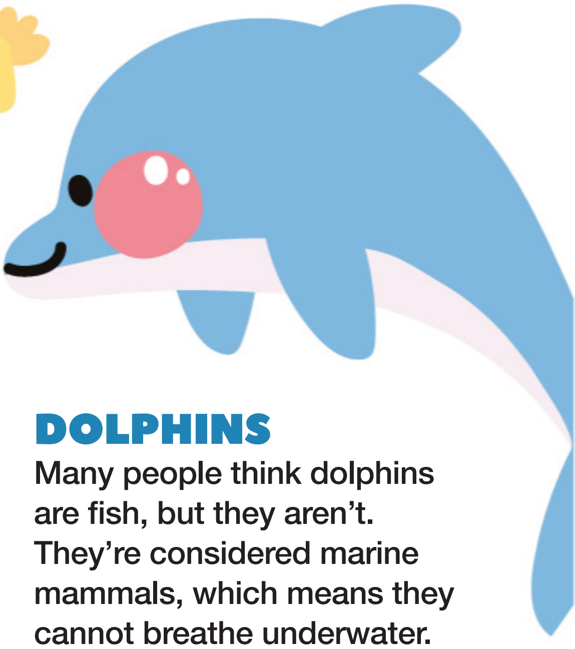
BRANCH OUT

Not all pet owners have cats and dogs. Many have rabbits, birds, fish, reptiles and rodents, so becoming familiar with the care of these different types of animals will set you apart from other pet sitters and make you more likely to get jobs!

Feature

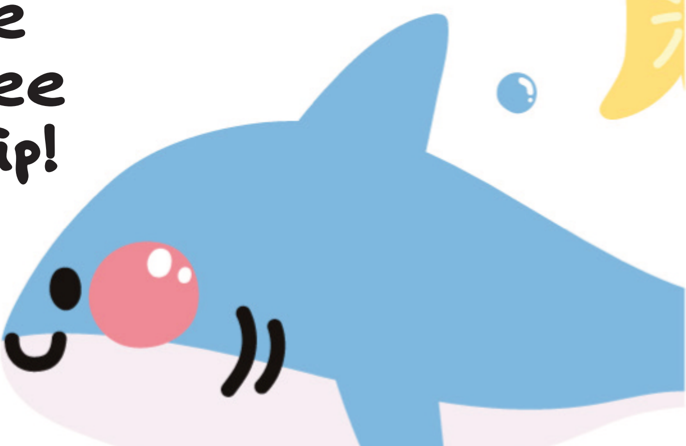
Beach BUMS!

Learn more about the creatures you might see on your next beach trip!



DOLPHINS

Many people think dolphins are fish, but they aren't. They're considered marine mammals, which means they cannot breathe underwater. They have to swim to the surface to take a breath. Lucky for them, they can hold their breath for 20 minutes.



SHARKS

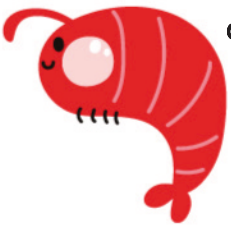
Sharks may look smooth and rubbery, but their skin feels like sandpaper because the outer layer of their skin is made up of tiny teeth-like structures called placoid scales, also known as dermal denticles.

JELLYFISH

Keep an eye out for jellyfish whenever you're splashing around in the ocean! These stinging cnidarians are hard to spot because they're often transparent (see-through) or translucent (semi-transparent). Their clear, jelly-like outer layer has helped them survive for 650 million years.

SHRIMPS

Several shrimp species serve as "cleaners" for other fish. They'll venture inside the mouths of different fish and remove the bloodsucking parasites from their tongues. To advertise their cleaning services, shrimp will wave their white antennae and do a little dance to get a fish's attention!



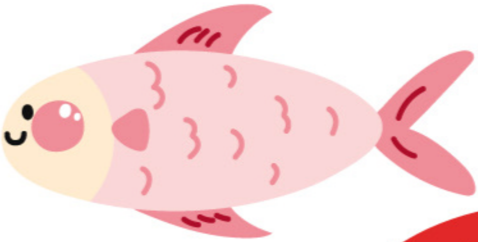
ma_nud_sen/Shutterstock

CRABS

These clawed creatures walk and swim sideways. Although they have the ability to shuffle slowly forward, crabs move much faster by flexing the second joint of each leg. These joints are simple hinges, like our knees, and they only bend sideways!

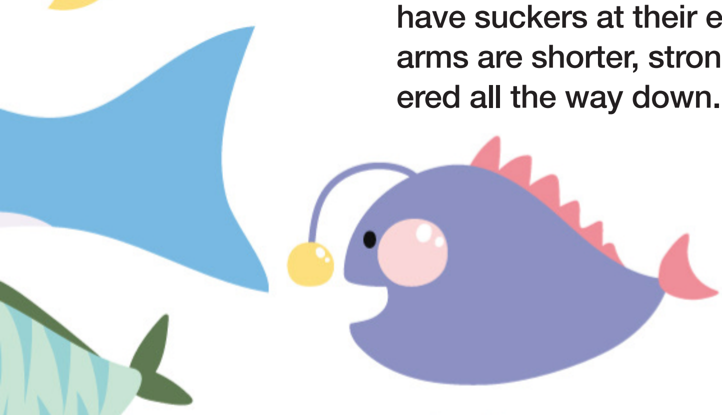
STARFISH

Starfish, a.k.a. sea stars, are very interesting creatures. They don't have brains or blood. How do they survive? They pump nutrients through their nervous system using filtered sea water. They can also regenerate their limbs if they get injured!



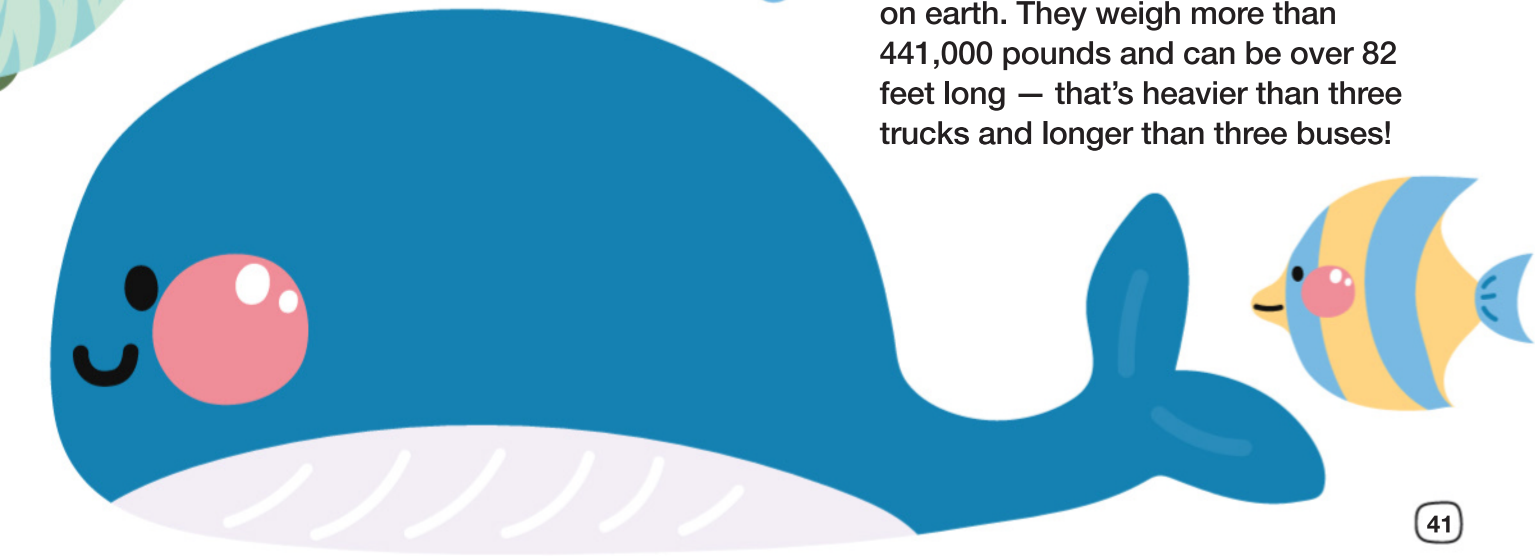
OCTOPUSES

Octopuses are famous for their eight "tentacles," but they actually have arms *not* tentacles. Tentacles tend to be much longer than arms and only have suckers at their ends, whereas arms are shorter, stronger and suckered all the way down.



BLUE WHALES

Blue whales are the largest animals on earth. They weigh more than 441,000 pounds and can be over 82 feet long — that's heavier than three trucks and longer than three buses!



let's go TO THE beach!

Animal Tales

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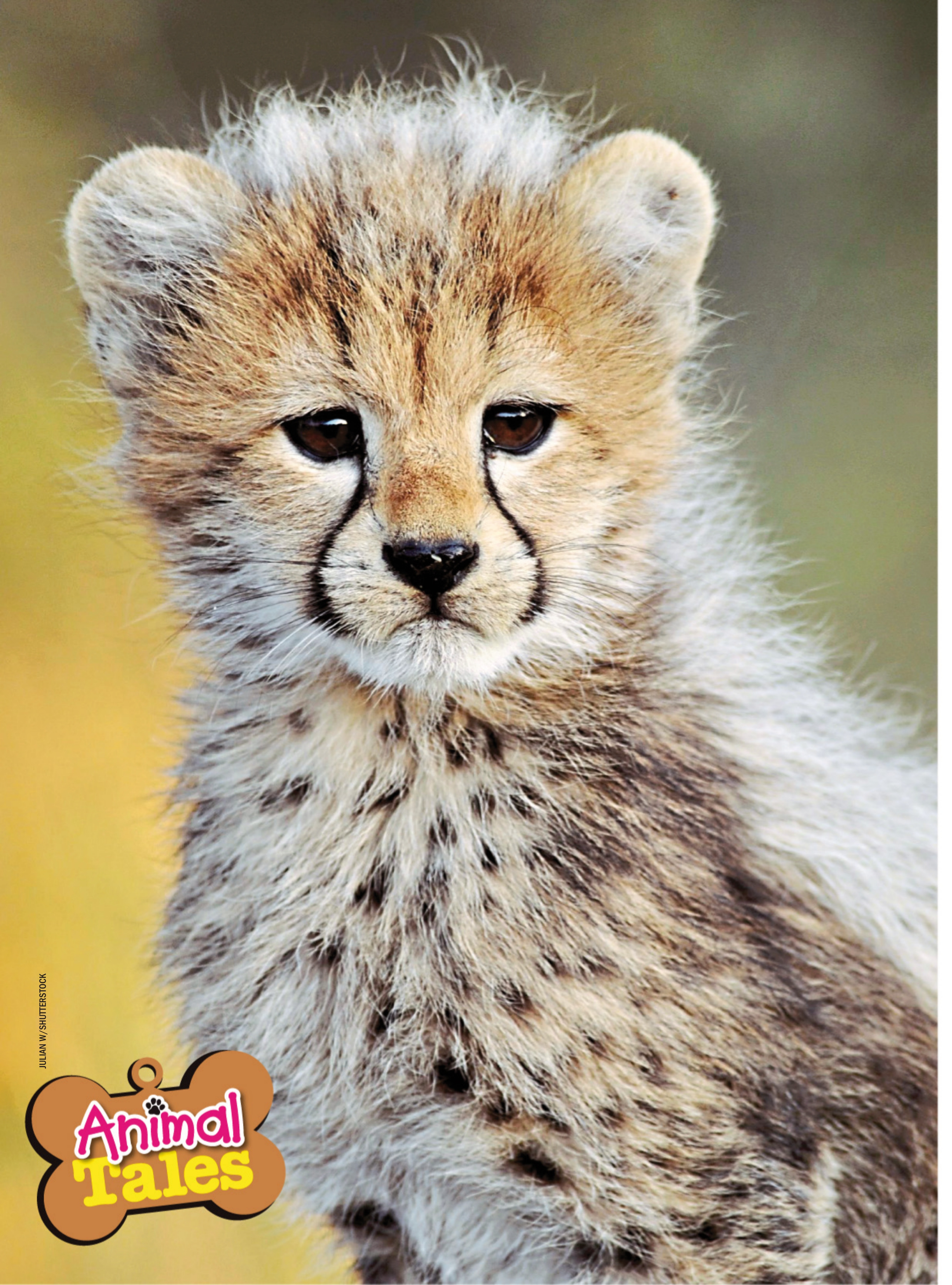
DUANGNAPA B/SHUTTERSTOCK

SOAK UP THE Sun!

BELIGHT/SHUTTERSTOCK; MD-RAJ HOSSAN/SHUTTERSTOCK


Animal Tales

JULIAN W/SHUTTERSTOCK

Run Wild & Free!

SHUTTERSTOCK / STEPHANIE FOTOGRAFIE

Animal Tales

SHUTTERSTOCK / VVVITA

HAD ENOUGH SWIMMING, SHELLS, AND SAND?

TAKE A BEACH-BLANKET BOOK BREAK!

Multiple Choice Questions

This or That

Flow-charts

Checklist Challenges

FLOW-CHART

WHICH SUPERCUTE MAMMAL ARE YOU?

What do you like to eat?

I'm not picky.

I prefer vegetarian meals.

Do you nap during the day?

No, I'm very active during the day.

Would you rather spend a day in the woods or at the beach?

Yes. I have a lot of energy at night.

Do you like crowds?

Yes, the more the merrier!

Are you good at climbing trees?

Nope, I avoid them.

I'm a great climber!

I'd rather stay on the ground, thanks.

» YOU'RE A RED PANDA.

This Asian animal is about the size of a house cat and is known for its beautiful bushy reddish brown fur.

» YOU'RE A FENNEC FOX.

This desert-dwelling animal searches for food at night, when it's cooler. Its big ears also help it stay cool by radiating body heat—and make it look cute to boot!

» YOU'RE A HARRIS'S ANTELOPE SQUIRREL.

Scientists aren't sure how this solitary squirrel, which burrows in the rocky deserts of North America, manages to dine on cactus fruit without being injured by the sharp spines.

104

In the woods

At the beach

» YOU'RE A CHEVROTAIN.

This animal is also called a mouse deer, but it's neither mouse nor deer. It belongs to a family of hoofed mammals that munch on forest plants at night.

» YOU'RE A QUOKKA.

A Dutch explorer mistook this cutie for a giant rat and named its island Rotte Nest (which means "rat's nest"). These creatures are a type of wallaby, and they dine on grasses and shrubs.

I'm a meat lover.

Are you more cute or fie

Definitely more cute!

» YOU'RE A MARGAY.

This "tiger cat" from Central and South America is a predator, but it feeds mostly on small birds, frogs, and insects.

I've got a fierce streak

Which do you like summer or wi

Summer

» YOU'RE A MEERKAT.

Meerkats live in large packs in warrens dug under the African savanna. During the day, they search for insects, spiders, scorpions, and other small animals to eat.

» YOU'RE A SERVAL.

This African cat hunts for small mammals such as rodents and hares. Its extra-long legs help it pounce on prey—and also explain its nickname, "giraffe cat."

» YOU'RE A JAPANESE WEASEL.

This weasel's white winter coat might make it look like an adorable plushie, but watch out! This expert hunter will chase after prey day night on all kinds of

Have fun learning new things about yourself ... and about the world, too!

WORD SEARCHES
QUIZ WHIZ
WORD JUMBLES
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KiDS
PUZZLE book of the OCEAN
Tons of COOL ACTIVITIES and FUN FACTS
True or False
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KiDS
weird but true! SHARKS
300 FIN-NOMENAL FACTS TO DIVE INTO
SCIENTISTS HAVE FOUND FOSSILIZED CROCODILE POOP WITH SHARK TEETH MARKS IN IT.
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Pretty in PINK

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Animal Tales

Animal Tales

Family is EVERYTHING!

SHUTTERSTOCK/PHOTOCREO MICHAL BEDNAREK; DANNYDOG/SHUTTERSTOCK

Animal Tales

SHUTTERSTOCK/NEW AFRICA

Spelling BEE!

Fill in the blanks to spell these animal names correctly!

1. Pe_g_i_

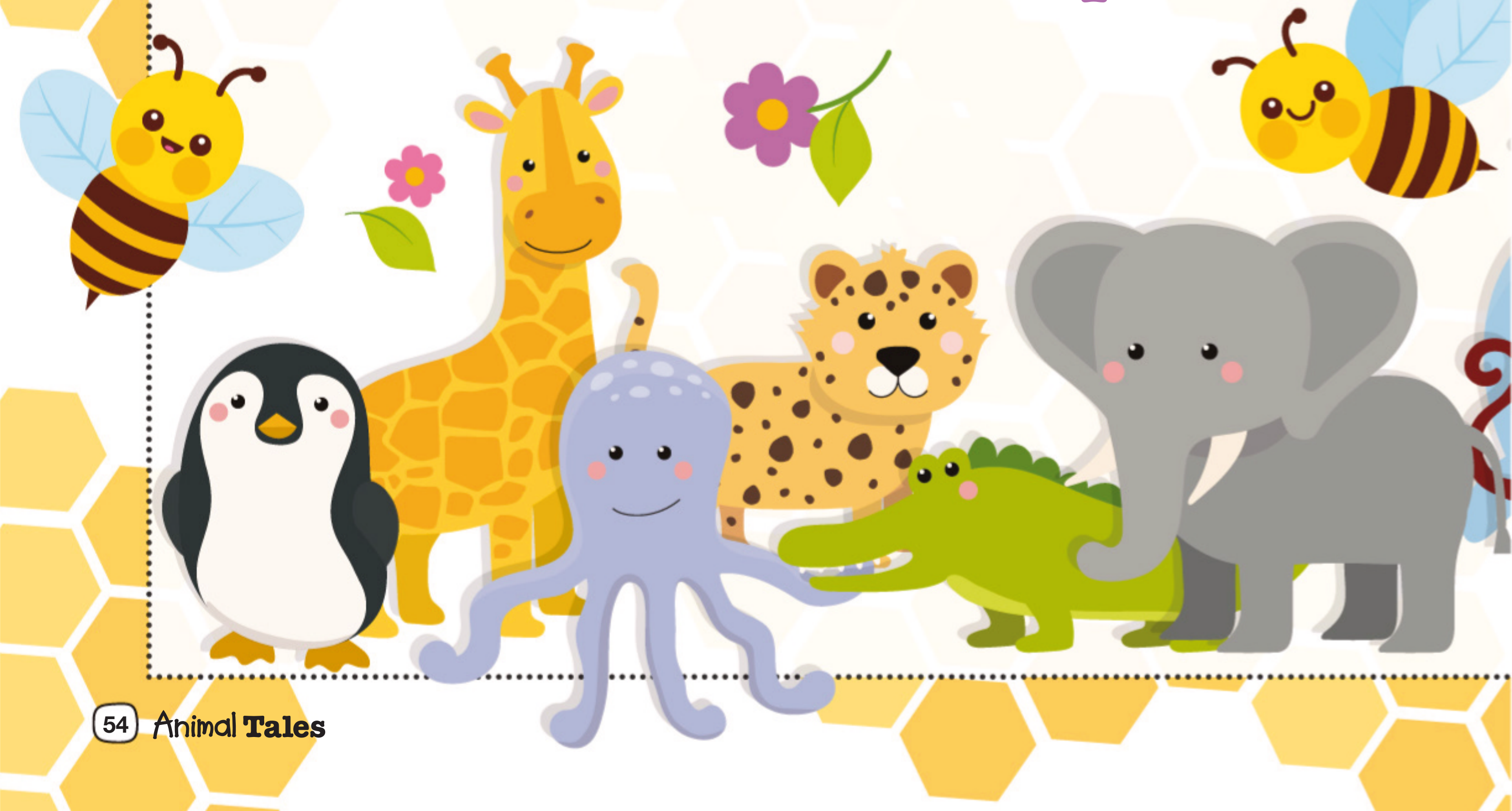
2. _ira_f_

3. Oc_o_u_

4. C_e_t_h

5. A_li_a_or

6. E_ep_ _nt



STOCKAKIA/SHUTTERSTOCK; BISCOTTO DESIGN/SHUTTERSTOCK

7. _ol_h_n

8. _o_k_y

9. Z_b_a

10. C_ic_e_

11. Go_i_la

12. Hip_op_tam_s

13. J_l_yfi_h

14. _o_k_y

15. R_ino_ero_

1. Penguin; 2. Giraffe; 3. Octopus; 4. Cheetah; 5. Alligator; 6. Elephant; 7. Dolphin; 8. Monkey; 9. Zebra; 10. Chicken; 11. Gorilla; 12. Hippopotamus; 13. Jellyfish; 14. Donkey; 15. Rhinoceros

Let's Stick TOGETHER!

In the wild, many animals have symbiotic relationships. That's when animals of different species live and work together in a way that helps both of them. Check out these unlikely pairings that live together!

CLOWNFISH and ANEMONES

They may look like ocean plants, but anemones are actually marine animals and perfect hiding spots for clownfish! The anemones' tentacles sting most animals in the water, but the stings don't hurt clownfish, which is why they stay close. The clownfish help the anemones by keeping away potential predators, luring in food and providing nutrients the anemones need!

LAVA LIZARDS and MARINE IGUANAS

On the Galápagos Islands, these two reptiles live in perfect harmony! Marine iguanas like to relax in the sun, but their chill time is disrupted by annoying flies that flock to them. Not to worry, lava lizards love eating flies, and they know a big group of marines iguanas is the perfect place to find them!

ANTS and APHIDS

They may be tiny, but aphids do a lot to help ants! They remove sugary fluids from plants, and use it to create a treat called honeydew for ants to eat. The ants know they need aphids around to get the yummy and nutritious meal, so they protect the aphids from danger and carry aphids to new places where they can find food when they're hungry!

OXPECKERS and ZEBRAS

Oxpeckers may think they're just grabbing lunch when they land on a zebra, but they're actually keeping the zebras healthy! You see, the birds will peck at parasites that are on the zebras' bodies. Those parasites taste good to them, but they could be very dangerous to the zebra's health.

PISTOL SHRIMPS and GOBIES

Gobies are small fish who live on the ocean floor. They like hanging out with pistol shrimps because pistol shrimps dig holes and burrow … and there's enough room for the gobies to fit inside those burrows! And the shrimps like having their goby friends nearby because they alert them when predators are close, and they can both scurry into the burrows.

COYOTES and BADGERS

When it's time to eat, coyotes and badgers team up! Badgers dig to get their food, while coyotes rely on moving quickly to catch slower prey. Together, badgers can capture animals hiding underground from the coyotes, while coyotes wait outside of the burrows for animals trying to outrun the digging badgers!

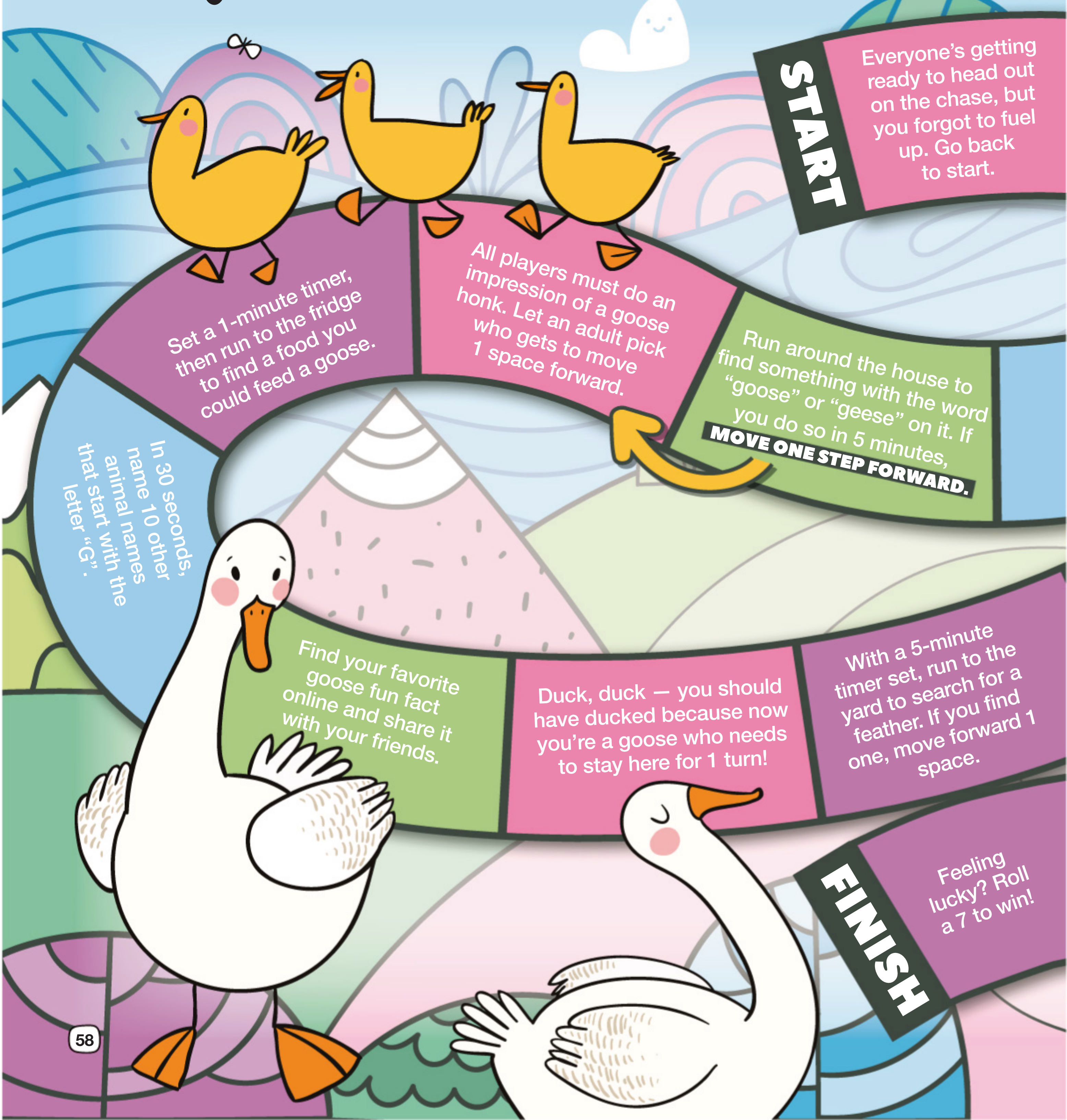
SURGEONFISH and TURTLES

Turtles aren't bothered by the surgeonfish that tag along while they swim. Why? The surgeonfish are like having their own personal spas! When turtles grow algae on their shells, the surgeonfish will spring into action and slurp it off. Oh, and the surgeon fish love it because they eat the algae!

SHUTTERSTOCK / LEVENT KONUK; SHUTTERSTOCK / BENFOSTER; SHUTTERSTOCK / SYAZWANI PARDI; SHUTTERSTOCK / DANITA DELIMONT; SHUTTERSTOCK / JESUS COBALEDA; SHUTTERSTOCK / DENNIS LAUGHLIN; SHUTTERSTOCK / DURDEN IMAGES

WILD Goose

Calling all silly gooses — this game is for you!



START

Everyone's getting ready to head out on the chase, but you forgot to fuel up. Go back to start.

Run around the house to find something with the word "goose" or "geese" on it. If you do so in 5 minutes, **MOVE ONE STEP FORWARD.**

All players must do an impression of a goose honk. Let an adult pick who gets to move 1 space forward.

Set a 1-minute timer, then run to the fridge to find a food you could feed a goose.

In 30 seconds, name 10 other animal names that start with the letter "G".

Find your favorite goose fun fact online and share it with your friends.

Duck, duck — you should have ducked because now you're a goose who needs to stay here for 1 turn!

With a 5-minute timer set, run to the yard to search for a feather. If you find one, move forward 1 space.

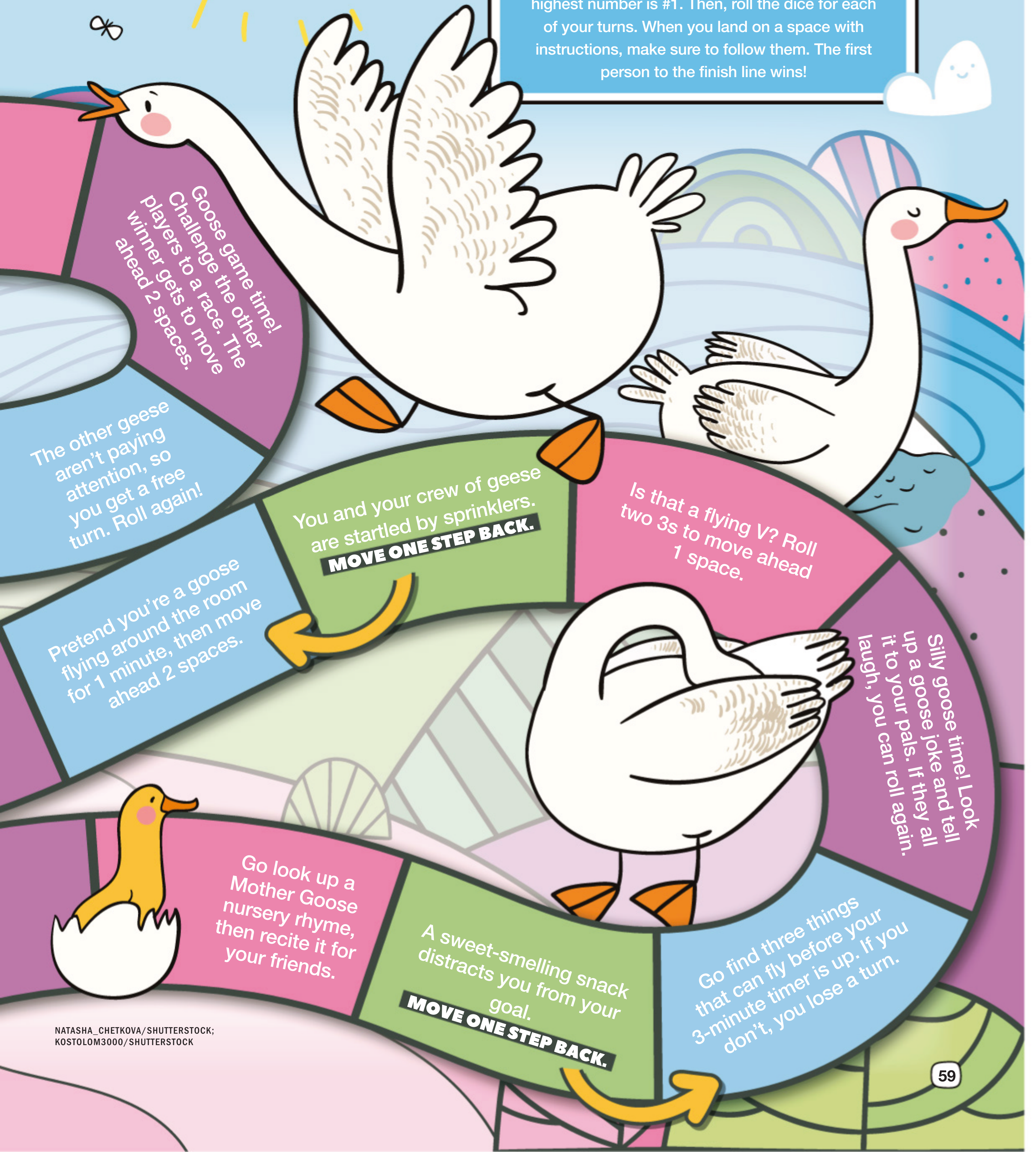
FINISH

Feeling lucky? Roll a 7 to win!

Chase!

DIRECTIONS

You're going to have to complete some crazy tasks on your wild goose chase! To play, have each player use a different coin as their game piece. Roll the dice to see who goes first — the player with the highest number is #1. Then, roll the dice for each of your turns. When you land on a space with instructions, make sure to follow them. The first person to the finish line wins!



Goose game time! Challenge the other players to a race. The winner gets to move ahead 2 spaces.

The other geese aren't paying attention, so you get a free turn. Roll again!

Pretend you're a goose flying around the room for 1 minute, then move ahead 2 spaces.

You and your crew of geese are startled by sprinklers. **MOVE ONE STEP BACK.**

Is that a flying V? Roll two 3s to move ahead 1 space.

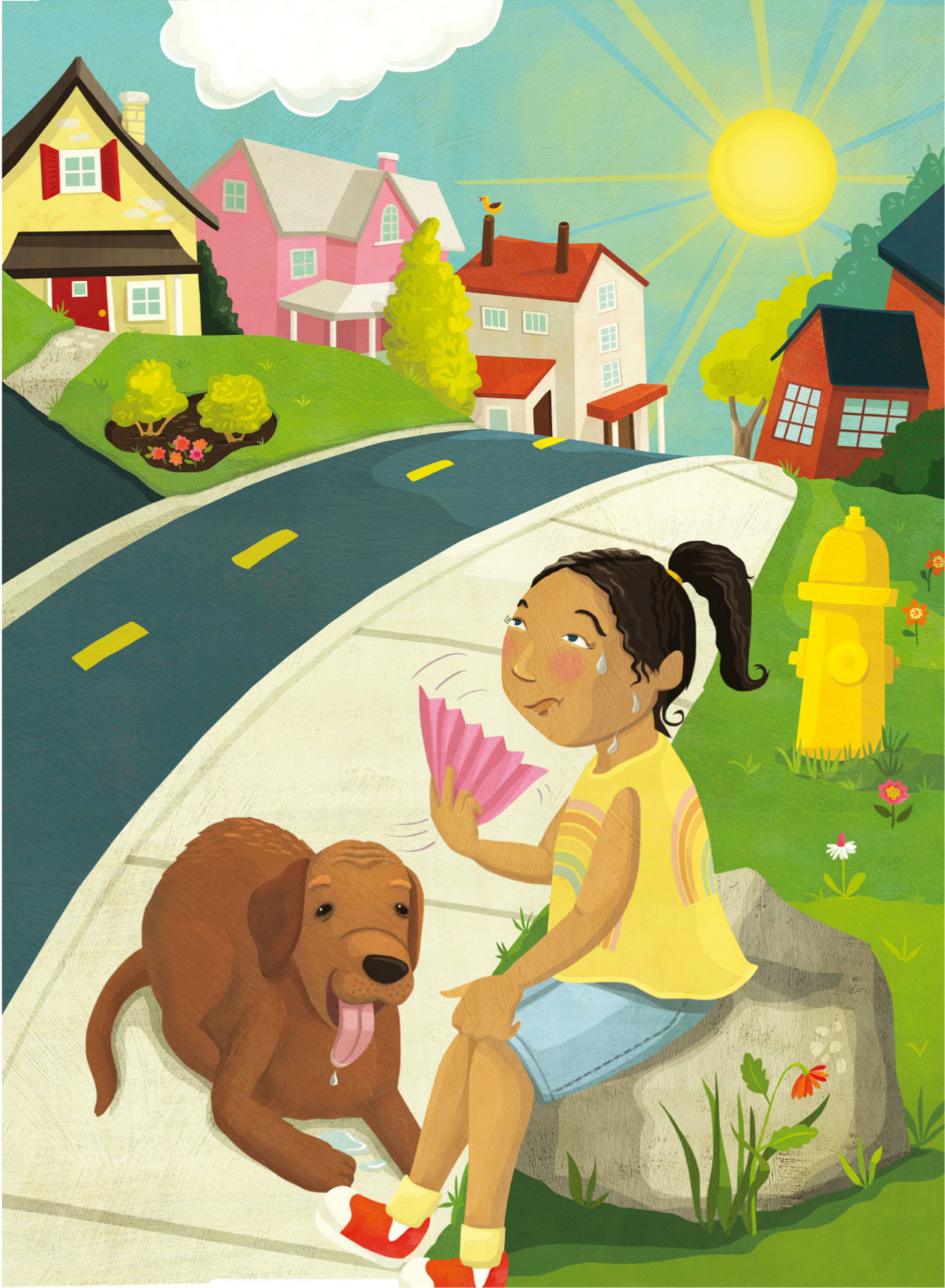
Silly goose time! Look up a goose joke and tell it to your pals. If they all laugh, you can roll again.

Go find three things that can fly before your 3-minute timer is up. If you don't, you lose a turn.

A sweet-smelling snack distracts you from your goal. **MOVE ONE STEP BACK.**

Go look up a Mother Goose nursery rhyme, then recite it for your friends.

NATASHA_CHETKOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK;
KOSTOLOM3000/SHUTTERSTOCK



The Dog Days of SUMMER

Priya Patel has never been an outdoorsy girl. Her favorite place to be on a summer day is inside her air-conditioned house. Unfortunately, her mom expects her to walk her dog, Moose, even if it's sweltering outside.

"Seriously, Mom?" Priya whines, hoping she heard incorrectly. "I can't walk Moose when it's 1,000 degrees outside!"

"Don't be such a drama queen," her mom rolled her eyes. "It's not that hot."

"It's pretty hot," Priya gave her mom a look.

Mrs. Patel chuckled. "We do seem to be experiencing the dog days of summer," she admitted.

"The what?" Priya was confused.

"The dog days of summer," her mom repeated. "It's a phrase people use to describe the hottest days of the season — the ones that are so hot they make dogs pant."

"Hmmm," Priya said. "Is it safe for Moose to go out in that kind of weather? I thought too much panting was a bad thing."

"Nice try," Mrs. Patel shook her head. "You still need to take him for at least a 15-minute walk — that's his shortest walk of the day. Bring his water bottle and make him drink from it a few times during your stroll."

"Will do," Priya reluctantly agreed, knowing she wasn't going to win this argument.

She grabbed Moose's leash, his water bottle and her trusty fan before taking the chocolate lab on a walk around their neighborhood.

After what felt like 10 minutes had gone by, Priya was sick of walking. So, she was pretty upset when she looked at her watch and realized it'd only been five minutes. As they passed a giant rock, she told Moose to stop walking so she could take a break.

"Sorry, buddy," Priya said out loud. "This just isn't my thing."

To bond with Moose, she preferred finding dog treat recipes on the internet and surprising him with them. (Some of them he loved — like the peanut butter and bacon ones — and others not so much — like the carrot surprise batch.) She'd even built a mini obstacle course for him in the basement using laundry baskets, blankets and couch cushions. She may have gotten in big trouble for making such a mess, but Moose had loved it.

The puppy dog eyes he was giving her now told her he wasn't having such a good time on their walk. Actually, the way he was tugging

ILLUSTRATIONS BY LAURA WATSON

on the leash told Priya his real issue was with her break.

Priya made him drink several gulps of water before wiping the sweat from her brow and finishing their walk.

"That wasn't 15 minutes," her mom's voice sounded as soon as she walked through the door. "It was barely 10!"

"You try walking Moose when it's that disgusting out," Priya panted.

Mrs. Patel gave her daughter a look that said, *We both know I've walked Moose every time it's been this disgusting out.*

Priya let Moose off his leash and watched him bolt to his water bowl.

"Wait a minute," Mrs. Patel stopped her from going anywhere. "I have a surprise for you in the backyard."

"Did you not give him water during the walk?" Mrs. Patel sounded concerned.

"I did!" Priya insisted. "It was just that hot out."

Her mom nodded.

Priya was heading upstairs when Mrs. Patel stopped her.

"There's a basket of laundry in the living room that I need you to fold. Can you do that now before you go …"

Priya cut her off. "I am sweating through my clothes, Mom! Can I please take a shower and change first?"

"My little drama queen," her mom smiled. "Always complaining about something!"

"Whatever," Priya grumbled.

"You can shower, but I want you to come down and fold as soon as you're finished."

Thirty minutes later, Priya was sitting next to her mom folding laundry when an idea came to her.

"I was thinking maybe we add some indoor chores to my list and you can walk Moose in the afternoons," she said.

"That's funny because I was thinking you really need to get outside more," her mom replied. "So that will not be happening."

"Ugh," Priya mumbled under her breath.

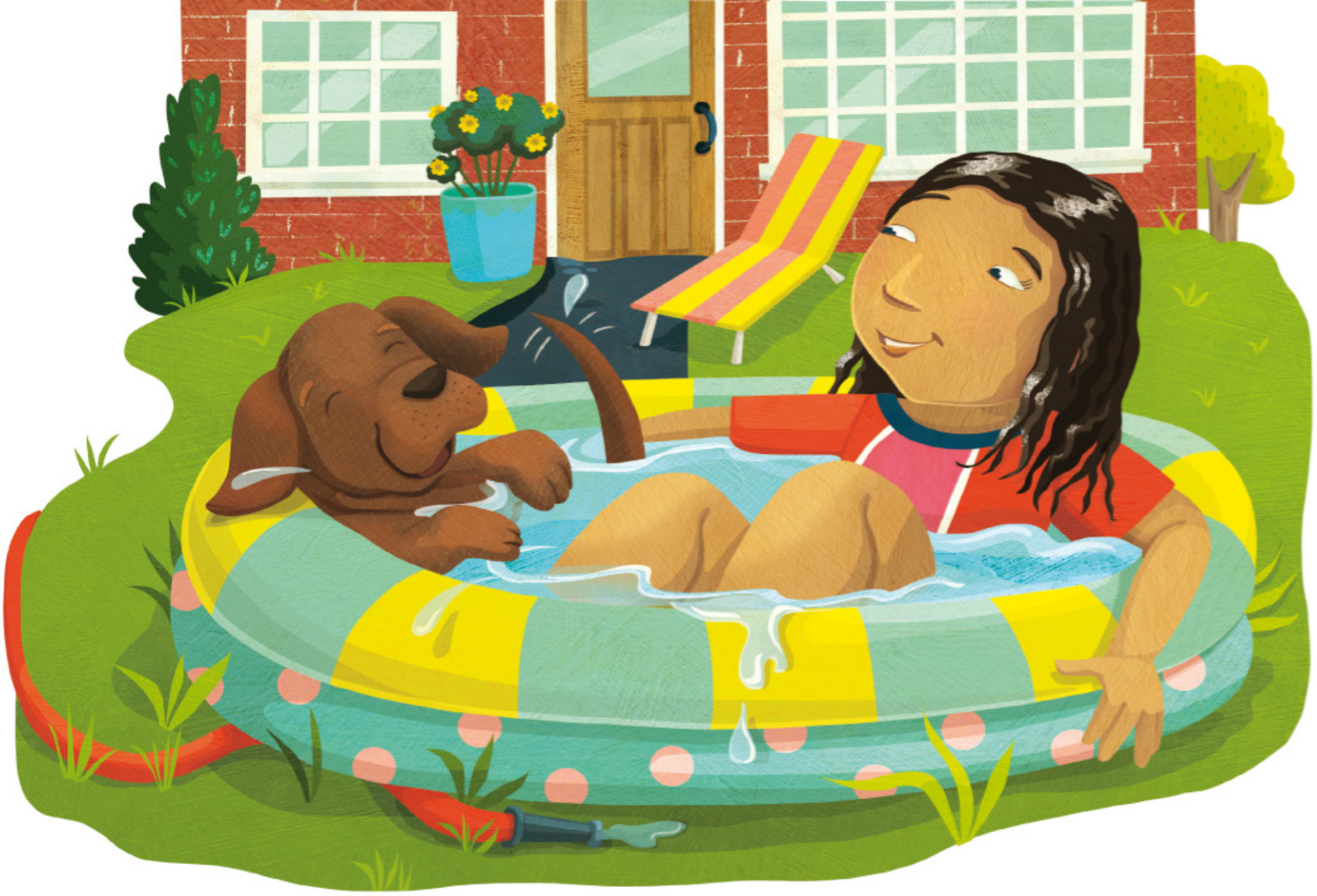
"And next time, I really need you to walk Moose for 15 minutes."

"But that's impossible!" Priya argued. "Moose didn't want to go for that long."

"We both know that you're fibbing about that Priya Patel," her mom said. "You're the one who didn't want to walk anymore. Moose can handle a 15-minute walk when it isn't too hot out, and despite what you think, it wasn't that warm today."

Priya kept her mouth shut because she knew her mom was right.

She spent the next few days trying and failing to walk Moose for 15 minutes a day. One day she made it to 12 minutes, and there was one super-sweltering day where she only made it three



minutes. But even her mom agreed the heat was to blame for that one.

Sick of her mom poking fun at her, Priya decided to time herself. She held her fan in her left hand and Moose's leash in the right, and she walked and walked until the timer said 15 minutes had passed.

"You did it!" her mom yelled when she came through the door this time.

"I need a shower ASAP!" Priya said.

"Wait a minute," Mrs. Patel stopped her from going anywhere. "I have a surprise for you in the backyard."

She instructed Priya to stay put and then ran out back for a few minutes.

"Come with me," she said when she came back. "And bring Moose."

Priya followed her onto the deck and saw an inflatable pool in the middle of the yard.

"Pools are much more fun than showers!" Mrs. Patel exclaimed.

Are they? Priya thought to herself, but her mom was so excited that she knew she had to try out the pool.

She didn't even bother to change into her bathing suit. She flopped into the pool with her walking clothes still on. She felt her body cool down almost immediately … then she felt a giant splash on her face. Moose had decided to join her.

Priya heard her mom let out a loud laugh.

"You think you're funny, huh?" Priya playfully wagged a finger at Moose.

He gave her a bunch of slobbery kisses.

"So, what do you think?" her mom asked, sounding hopeful.

"I love the pool, Mom. It was a great idea."

"Really?"

Moose barked, which Priya took to mean he agreed.

"Absolutely," Priya smiled. "I think I'm starting to like the dog days of summer!" 🐾

WARM WELCOME
Maui Ocean Center is the only public aquarium on Maui and it's home to marine life only found in Hawaii. The three-acre facility has six main exhibits that feature fish, deep water animals, Hawaiian history and more.

OCEAN DWELLERS
Open Ocean is one impressive exhibit! The 750,000-gallon tank is the largest one in the state, and there are hundreds of fish, rays and sharks inside it.

Animal Tales Tours: Maui Ocean

LEARNING LESSON
You can get up close and personal at Maui Ocean Center's Discovery Pool. Wet naturalists like this one give educational presentations about Hawaii's marine invertebrates.

I'm octo-mistic you'll have a fun visit!

OCTOPUS OPPORTUNITY
Octopuses at the Maui Ocean Center only remain there for a short period of time. Why? Because after they get the care they need, they're returned to the ocean to find a mate and produce the next generation of octopuses.

FISH FUN
This is a Hawaiian Dascyllus, and it's often seen nestled into the reef like this. However, as they grow larger, they become bolder and leave their hiding spots.

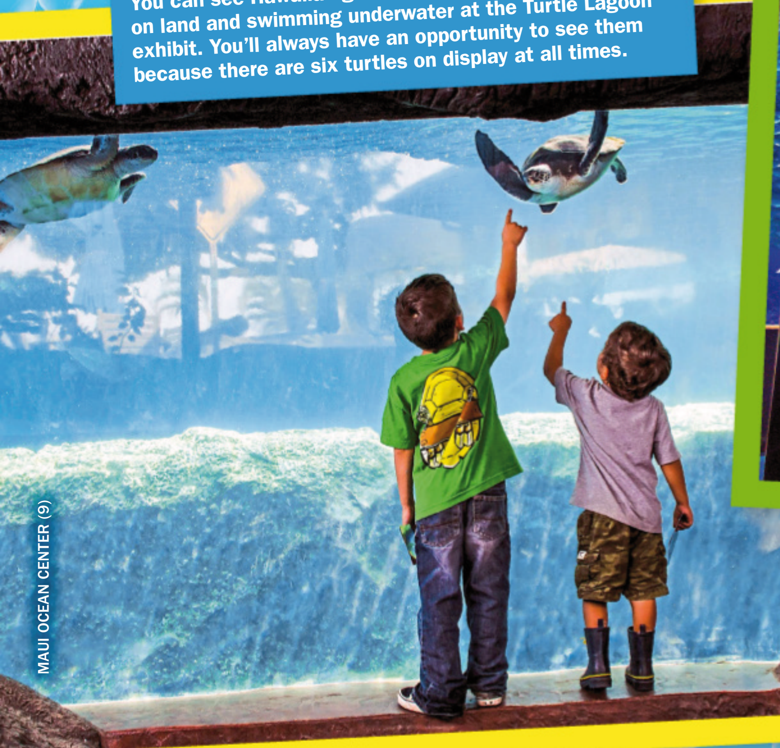
JUST JELLY
At the Sea Jellies exhibit, you'll spot tons of moon jellies. They float through the water with cool, color-changing lights flashing through the display.

RAD REEF
Living Reef is one of the world's largest displays of Pacific corals, featuring 40 Hawaiian corals.

Center

Take a look inside the Hawaii aquarium!

TURTLE TIME
You can see Hawaiian green sea turtles crawling around on land and swimming underwater at the Turtle Lagoon exhibit. You'll always have an opportunity to see them because there are six turtles on display at all times.



JOIN THE HUNT
GATHERING OF THE HUNTERS
NOMADS OF THE SEA

WORLD-FAMOUS WHALES
You'll need 3D glasses to get the full experience at Humpbacks of Hawai'i, Exhibit & Sphere. Discover the exciting life, journeys and social bonds of these super-smart creatures.

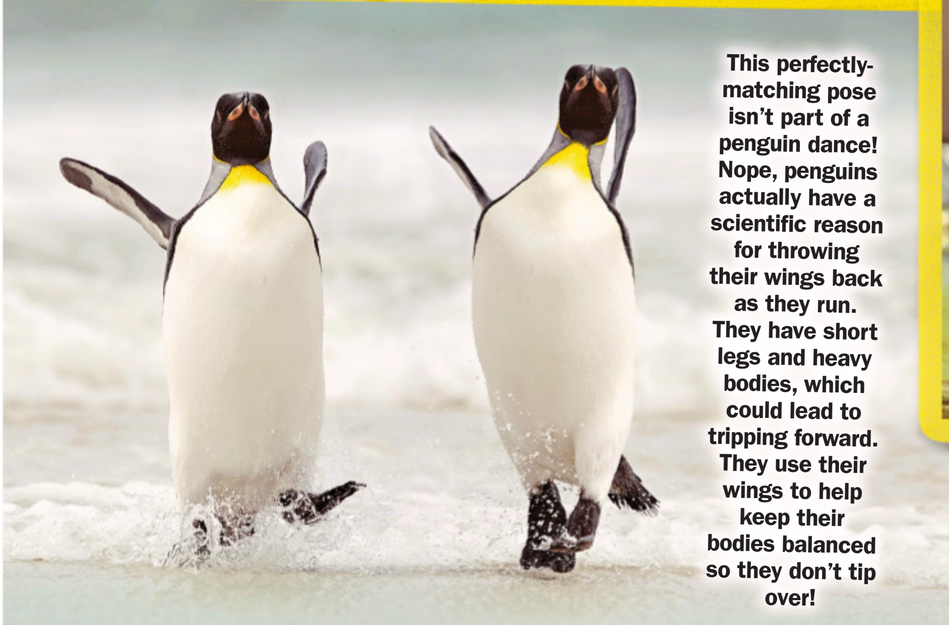
MAUI OCEAN CENTER (9)

Silly Pet TRICKS

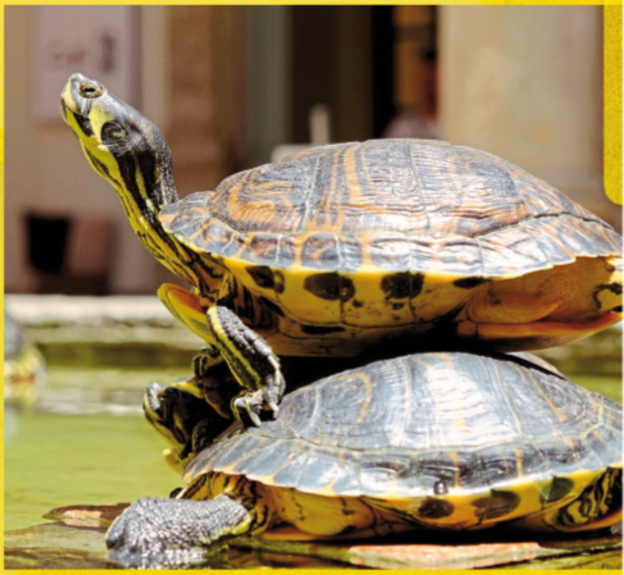
Wow, these are some clever critters!

Okay, so dogs can't drive boats like this one, but there are still plenty of reasons why dogs love being out on a boat like humans do! Boats are great places for dogs to explore new things, like different sights, unique smells and more. It's like sticking their heads out of a car window times a million!

SHUTTERSTOCK/NAVISTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK/ONDREJ PROSICKY; SHUTTERSTOCK/DRIMOROND; SHUTTERSTOCK/ERIC ISSELEE; SHUTTERSTOCK/ AIR IMAGES; SHUTTERSTOCK/JOE KRAVETZ; SHUTTERSTOCK/A LESIK



This perfectly-matching pose isn't part of a penguin dance! Nope, penguins actually have a scientific reason for throwing their wings back as they run. They have short legs and heavy bodies, which could lead to tripping forward. They use their wings to help keep their bodies balanced so they don't tip over!



There's a turtle battle to the top! Known as stacking, turtles love climbing on top of one another, and it's all to get just a tiny bit closer to the sun. In order to stay healthy, turtles need both the warmth and the UV rays the sun provides, and they're willing to climb on their pals to get the perfect spot to bask in that sweet sunlight!

If you've ever wondered why your dog has such an easy time getting along with your other pets, well, here's why! Dogs are naturally social animals who are bred to hang out with a different species — humans — all of the time. That's why they adapt just as well to being around other species and are curious to get to know them.

There are two reasons dogs are such pro surfers! For one, their legs are shorter than ours, which means their bodies are closer to the surfboard and more difficult to knock over. Second, they have four legs that help them keep their balance and stand strong!

Look out birds, this squirrel is here to steal your feeder! Squirrels are experts at hanging upside-down because they have very flexible ankles. So, even though their entire bodies may be upside-down, their feet stay right side-up, giving them the perfect grip.

Jumping through hoops? It's easy-peasy for dolphins. They can jump up to 25 feet out of the water — that's equal to stacking five refrigerators on top of each other!

SEND US YOUR PHOTO!

Send us a picture of your pet doing something clever, and it could end up on this page! Email it to us at mail@animaltalesmag.com with "Silly Pet Tricks" in the subject line.

So You Want a SHIBA INU!

These confident pups will put a smile on your face!

PERSONALITY

Shiba Inus are bold, confident dogs. Many people say Shibas are more similar to cats than most dogs. This is because they are very independent, proud and smart. They can sometimes be difficult to train because they are so independent, but are also known to train themselves because they're so bright.

FEATURES

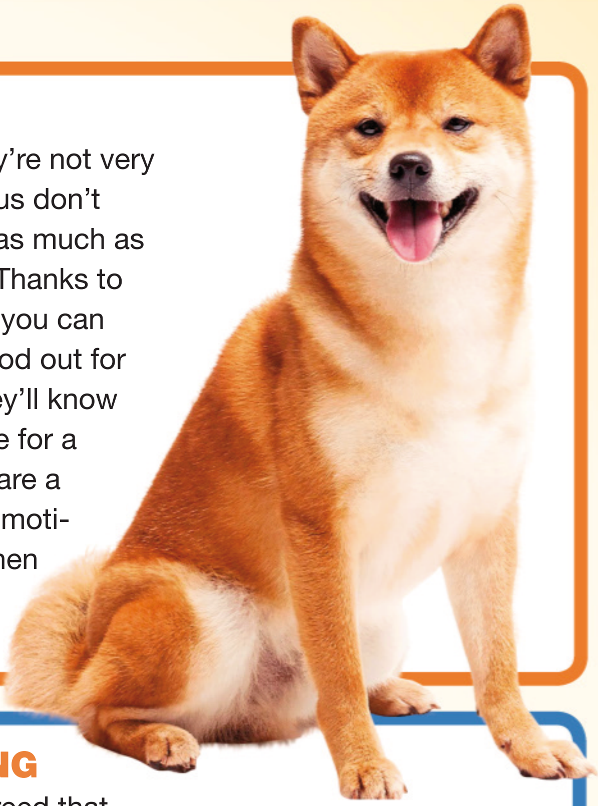
Shiba Inus have fox-like features. They range in size from small to medium, have curly tails, strong muscles and pointy ears. They have a double coat of fur — a thick, soft undercoat, and a straight, coarse outer coat.

ACTIVITY

You can count on a Shiba to love going on walks! They need daily exercise and interaction with their humans. While going on walks, a harness is a must because Shibas are known to be escape artists and once they escape, it's difficult to get them back.

FOOD

Because they're not very big, Shiba Inus don't typically eat as much as larger dogs. Thanks to their smarts, you can leave their food out for them and they'll know when it's time for a meal. Treats are a good way to motivate them when they're being trained.



GROOMING

This is one breed that sheds a lot! They completely lose their warm undercoat of fur two to four times a year, and when they do, they require daily brushing. Besides their shedding, Shibas are very clean dogs and usually self-groom — another reason they're compared to cats!

COMMUNICATION

Shiba Inus are known for being nearly barkless pups. They only bark when they absolutely need to, like when they're in danger. Instead, they make other noises like yodels and something called a Shiba Inu scream — where they make a high-pitched yelp that's similar to a howl.

FUN FACT

Shiba Inus are native to Japan and were originally bred to be hunting dogs. They were first introduced to America in 1954. Today, they are the number one most popular companion dog in Japan and the 43rd most popular dog breed in the United States.

Supplies You'll Need!

Stock up on these essentials.

Cloud Star Wag More Bark Less Grain Free Soft & Chewy Treats, $7, amazon.com

GRAIN FREE
cloud star
WAG MORE Bark Less
SOFT CHEWS
PEANUT BUTTER & APPLES
GRAIN FREE

Open Farm Grass-Fed Beef Grain-Free Dry Dog Food, $40, amazon.com

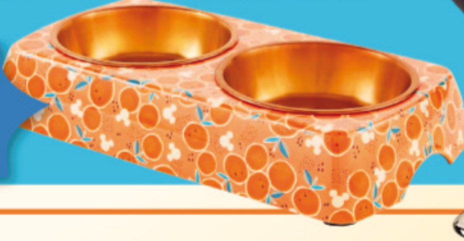
OPEN FARM
HUMANELY & SUSTAINABLY SOURCED
GRASS-FED BEEF RECIPE

KONG Dog ZoomGroom Multi-Use Brush, $12, chewy.com

KONG
ZOOM GROOM

Best Pet Supplies Voyager Padded Fleece Dog Harness, $16, chewy.com

Disney Mickey Mouse Orange Bamboo Melamine Stainless Steel Double Dog & Cat Bowl, $18, chewy.com



Coastal Pet Personalized Red Double-Ply Dog Leash, $22, petco.com

SHUTTERSTOCK/OTSPHOTO; SHUTTERSTOCK/AKIM LAKEEV; SHUTTERSTOCK/IRINA VANEEVA

WORLD TRAVELER QUIZ!

Summer is vacation time! The goal of this quiz is to guess where in the world you'd have to travel to find each animal. Use the hints to figure out the animal's home, then fill it in in the space provided.

LOCATIONS

- Forests in Australia
- Rivers in Africa
- Swampland in Florida
- Shallow waters of the Caribbean
- Mountain forests in China
- Rainforests in South America
- Savannas in Africa

1. ALLIGATOR

Hint: You can find me trying to stay cool in the same state where you can visit Mickey Mouse in Walt Disney World!

Answer:

4. KOALA

Hint: G'day mate! I call a continent down under my home, and I love climbing trees!

Answer:

5. PANDA

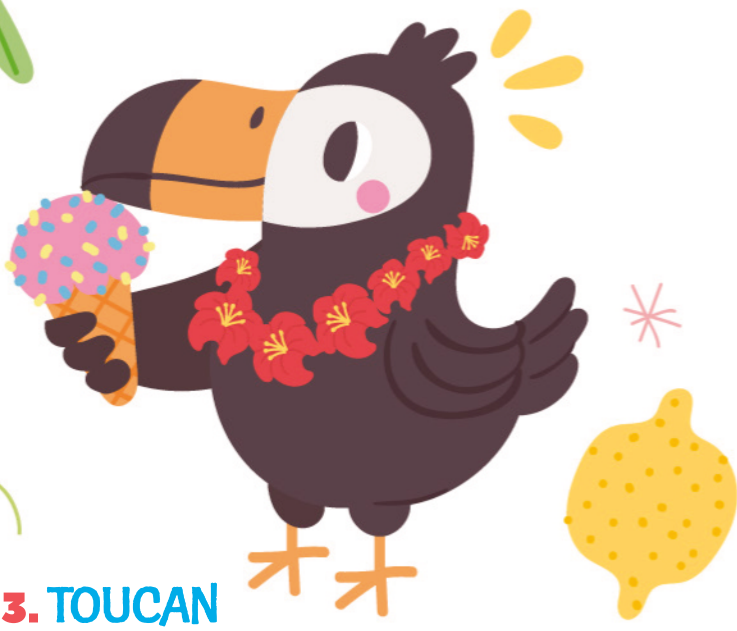
Hint: If you've seen *Kung Fu Panda*, you'll know what Asian country you'd have to visit to see me in the wild.

Answer:

2. ELEPHANT

Hint: My home is a grassy plain in a very hot continent — the same place as Simba from *The Lion King*!

Answer:



3. TOUCAN

Hint: Look up! I like to fly high in the tallest trees — even when there's lots of rain!

Answer:

6. HIPPOPOTAMUS

Hint: Splish splash! I like to spend my days resting the water, so I live somewhere with deep waters that keep me cool.

Answer:

7. FLAMINGO

Hint: The island life is the life for me! While I don't usually swim underwater, I stay close to the water so I can eat my favorite food: shrimp.

Answer:

Answer key: 1. Swampland in Florida; 2. Savannas in Africa; 3. Rainforests in South America; 4. Forests in Australia; 5. Mountain forests in China; 6. Rivers in Africa; 7. Shallow waters of the Caribbean

TARTILA/SHUTTERSTOCK

Animal ANTICS

If these badly-behaved creatures could talk...

Let's do a silly pic!
I can do slightly silly.
Nope.
Oh, yeah, I'm in!

Did you get the shot yet? I've been posing like this for an hour now...

I know I buried something good here last summer!

I'm so em-bear-assed!

Why did we climb all the way up here?
Um, I think...
It was your idea!

Why did the human buy plants that taste bad? Feels selfish!

SHUTTERSTOCK/BIRKIR ASGEIRSSON; SHUTTERSTOCK/EZZOLO; SHUTTERSTOCK/
IULIIA KHABIBULLINA; SHUTTERSTOCK/PERPIS; SHUTTERSTOCK/STEVEBALL;
SHUTTERSTOCK/OLYA KOMAROVA; SHUTTERSTOCK/NVELICHKO

Are they mocking us?!

SEND US YOUR PHOTO!

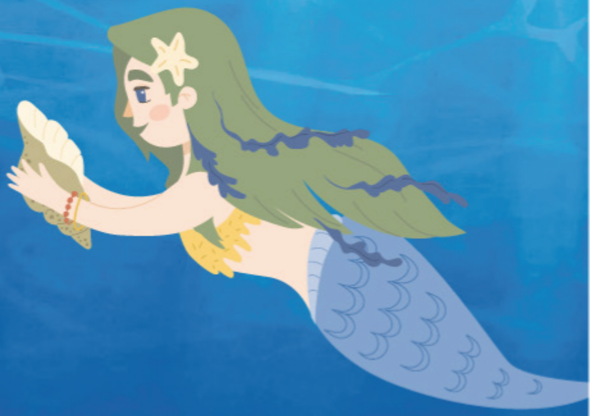
Send us a picture of your pet behaving badly, and it could end up on this page! Email it to us at mail@animaltalesmag.com or send it to *Animal Tales*, Animal Antics, 270 Sylvan Avenue, Suite 2220, Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632. Sorry, pics can't be returned.

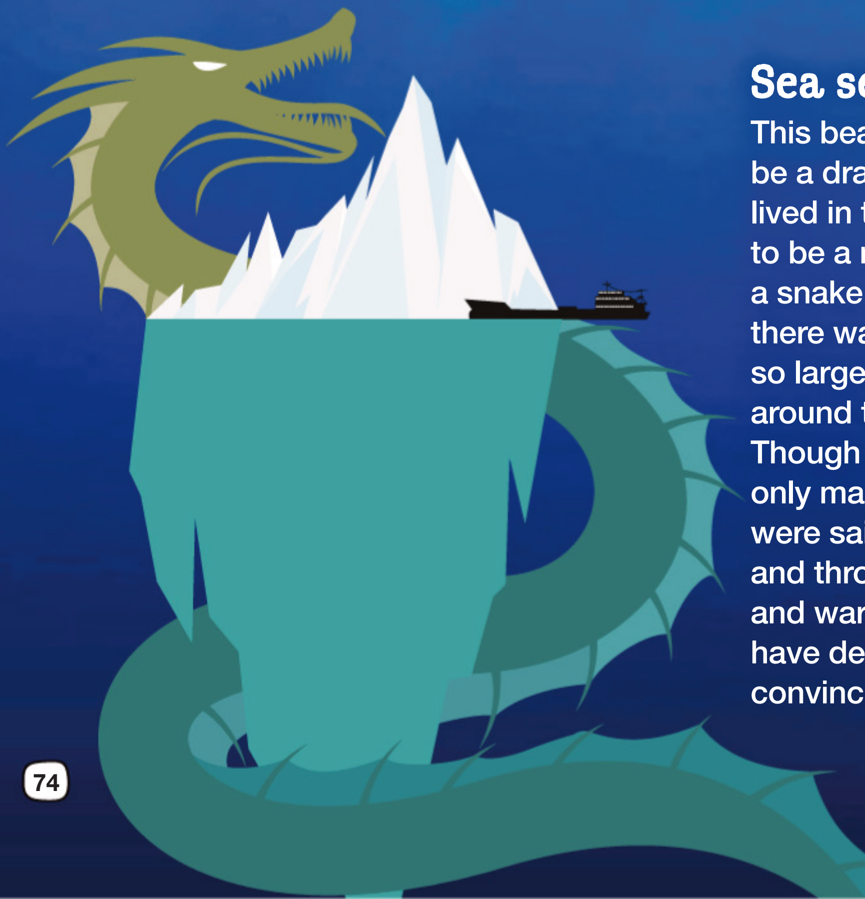
Mythical Sea Creatures!

Have you seen *The Little Mermaid* or *Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken*? If so, you already know a thing or two about mythical sea creatures! They're legendary, fictional characters that have been made up in folklore throughout history. Read on to get to know some more about their lore.

Mermaids

People have been telling stories of mermaids for over 3,000 years! Though some mythical creatures come from one specific place in the world, cultures all around the world have their own tales about mermaids. Most of often, mermaids are half-woman, half-fish creatures that live in the sea. In some stories, they're said to bring good luck, while others say they're a sign of bad things to come.

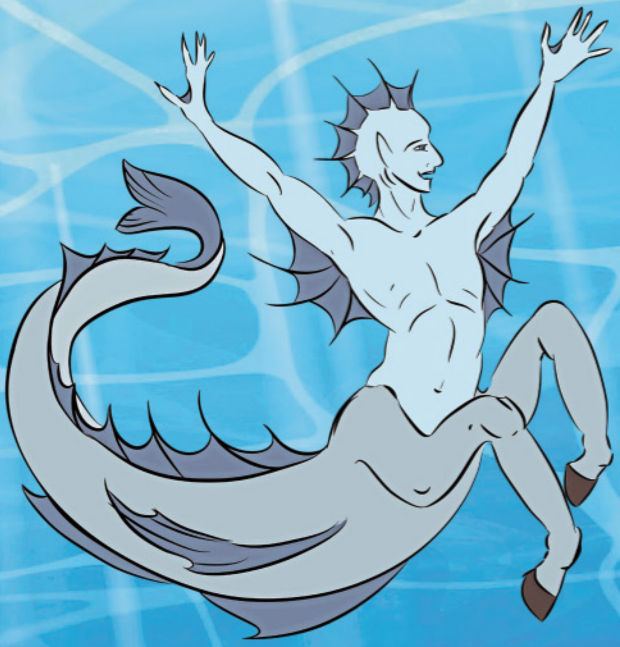




Sea serpents

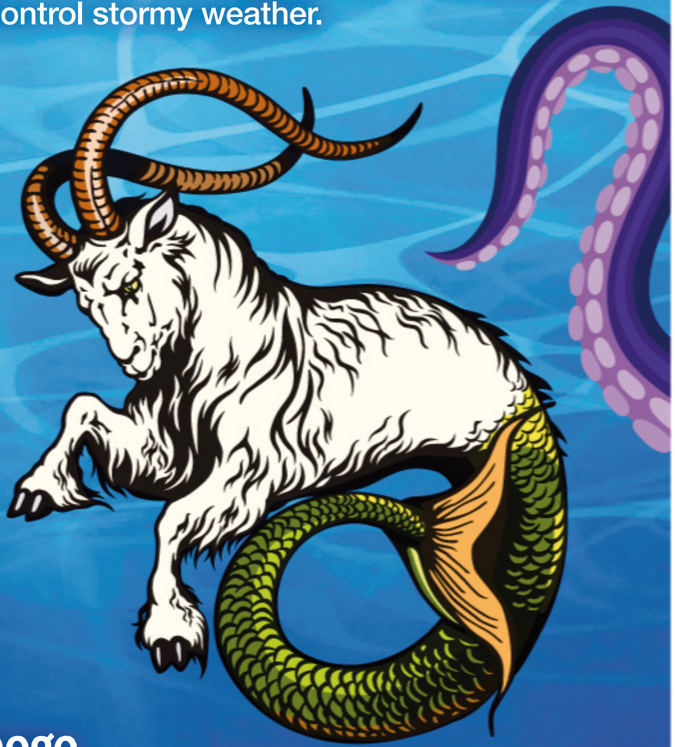
This beast was imagined to be a dragon-like monster that lived in the sea. They were said to be a mixture of a fish and a snake. In Norse mythology, there was even a sea serpent so large that it could wrap around the entire earth. Though these stories were only made up, sea serpents were said to mean danger, and throughout history, rulers and warriors would claim to have defeated sea serpents to convince others of their power!

KSENIIA KHOMYAKOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; VABLESTUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK / KAZAKOVA MARYIA; INSIMA/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK / DANIEL ESKRIDGE; DARIA_ART/SHUTTERSTOCK



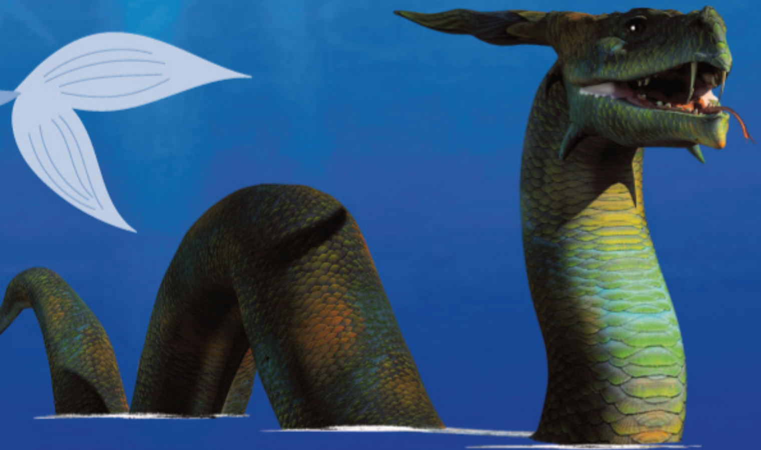
Ichthyocentaurs

In Greek mythology, what made the Ichthyocentaurs special was that it was known to made of three different beings: the top half of a human, the front legs of a horse and the tail of a fish! As gods of the sea, they could blow into sea shells to control stormy weather.



Sea goats

If you or someone you know is a Capricorn, then you get to call the sea goat your own personal symbol! Started in Greek mythology, this half goat, half fish would go on to become a constellation. The story goes that a goat-like god named Pan once saved the god, Zeus, from a sea monster. As a reward, Zeus created a constellation of Pan in sea goat form!

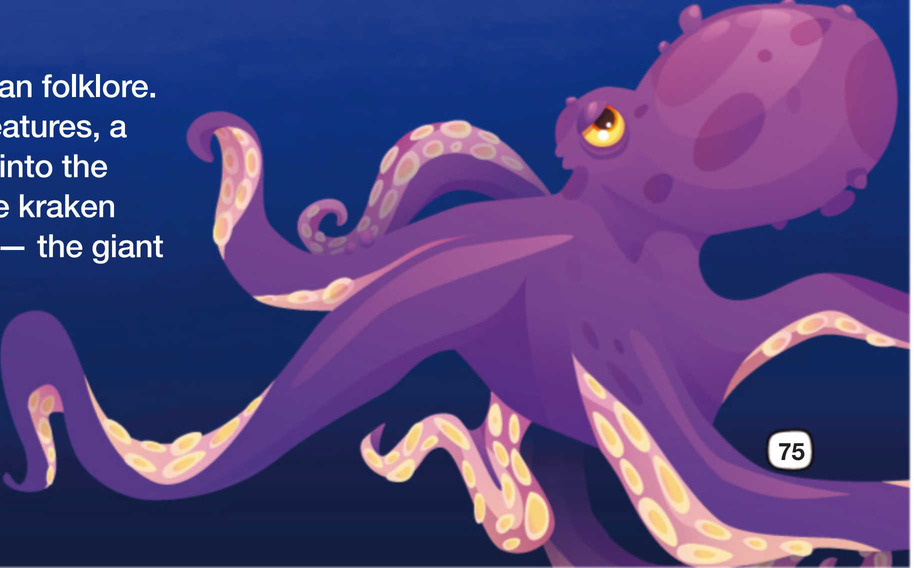


Ogopogo

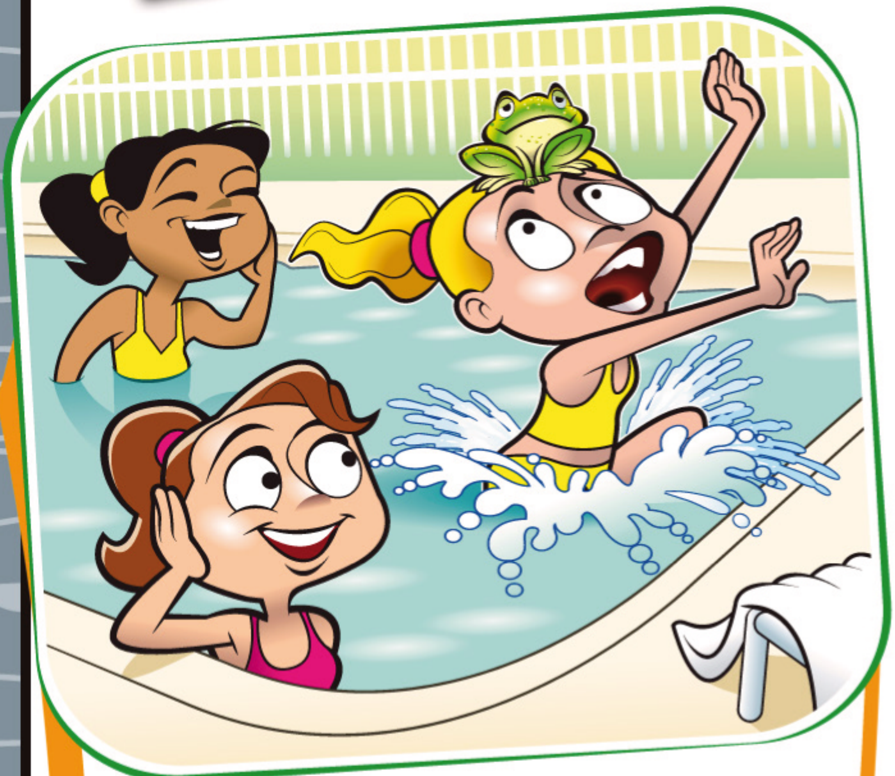
This lake monster with a silly name comes from Canadian folklore. Legend has it that Ogopogo lives in the Canadian body of water, Okanagan Lake. Indigenous Canadian people believe that Ogopogo was a scary beast that could move very fast. They thought that any human wishing to travel using Okanagan Lake would first have to give Ogopogo a gift. If they didn't, they'd be sucked down into the bottom of the lake!

Krakens

The kraken was created in Scandinavian folklore. Depicted as massive, octopus-like creatures, a kraken could pull an entire ship down into the depths of the ocean. The legend of the kraken was actually inspired by a real animal — the giant squid. Navigators of the seas believe an even bigger creature was lurking in the water, and that's where the story of the kraken began!



Embarrassing MOMEN



Frog fiasco

I have an in-ground pool in my backyard that I love swimming in with my friends. The only problem? Frogs love swimming in it, too! One day, we decided to have an underwater somersault contest. My two friends went, and then I went. When I came up for air after doing my somersaults, both of my friends started laughing. "Hey, I beat you both," I replied. But then I realized what they were laughing at ... a frog was sitting on top of my head! I freaked out and ran out of the pool, shaking my head to get the frog off! — **Julianna, CT**

Coop chaos

Once, my friend was over and she wanted to see our chickens. It had rained the night before and their coop was all muddy. As I was walking in, one of the chickens, named Nutmeg, pecked at my foot. It scared me so much that I slipped and fell into the mud. I was covered head to toe with poop and mud — it was gross! My friend had to help me out of the coop and even opened the house door for me so I didn't get poop all over the door handle.
— **Susannah, PA**

Toad trouble

My friend had a Mario Brothers themed birthday party and of course, I had to dress as my favorite character, Toad! I got a plush hat that looked just like the top of Toad's mushroom head. I don't know why, but for some reason, my friend's cat, Naomi, was really interested in my Toad hat. As soon as I got to the party, Naomi leapt toward my head and tried to scratch at the hat! She did it so much that my friend's mom had to put Naomi in a bedroom for the rest of the party! — **Nick, AZ**

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARK COLLINS

Sometimes our furry friends cause crazy catastrophes!

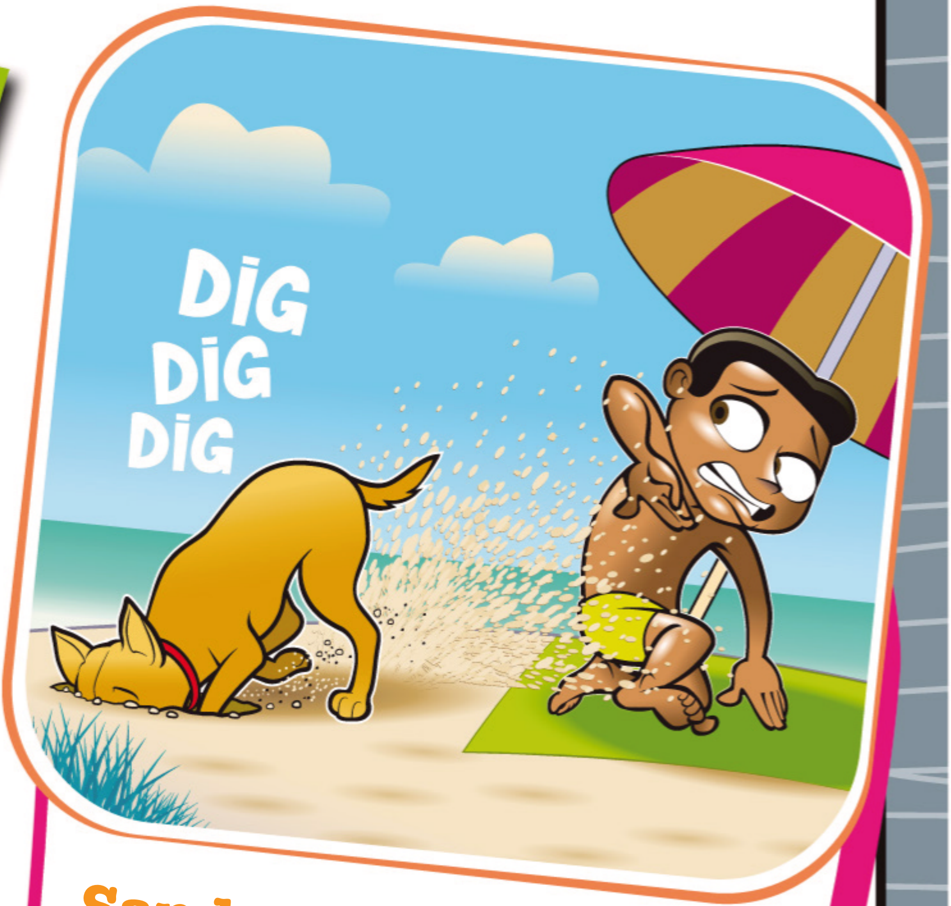
TS!

Gator goof

I live in Colorado, so when my family went to Florida for vacation, I was hoping to spot an alligator in the wild. Each time we'd drive by water, I'd keep my eyes glued. Our vacation house was close to a lake, and I thought for sure there had to be a gator in there somewhere. I sat a far distance away, until I finally saw a baby in the grass. I screamed for everyone in my family to come outside ... only to discover it was just a big rock on the ground! **— Christopher, CO**

Ferret fail

My friend has a ferret that is allowed to roam freely around the house. I can't lie, it freaks me out a little bit every time I spot it scurrying around. One night, we were watching a movie on her couch and I had a big bowl of popcorn on my lap. We were at a really quiet part of the movie when all of a sudden, the ferret popped up from the crack between couch cushions. I screamed and threw the popcorn bowl in the air! I don't think ferrets are the pet for me. **— Marisol, VT**



Sandy situation

On our first family trip to the beach, I insisted that our dog, Spinner, come with us. My parents said he'd be a lot of work, but how could we leave him alone while we were having so much fun? Plus, I knew he'd love the ocean. Well, I was little off. Spinner thought the water was fine, but what he really loved was the sand! He spent our entire trip digging up holes in the sand. And what was worse was that he wanted to be right next to me the whole time, so I kept getting sand flung in my direction. I'm sorry to say that next time, Spinner is going to stay home when we go to the beach! **— Joseph, NJ**

KEY

Totally embarrassing!

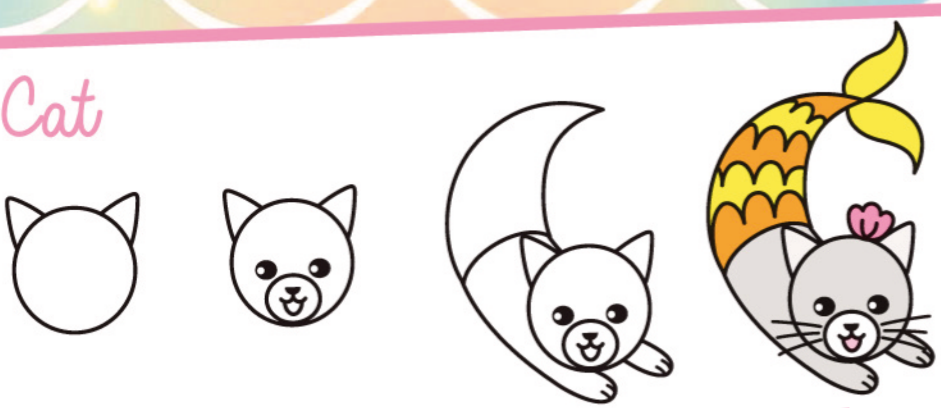
Don't show your face for a while!

Yikes! You'll never live that down!

Mermaid MANIA!

Turn your favorite animals into mermaids!

Cat



1 Draw a circular head with triangular ears on top of it.

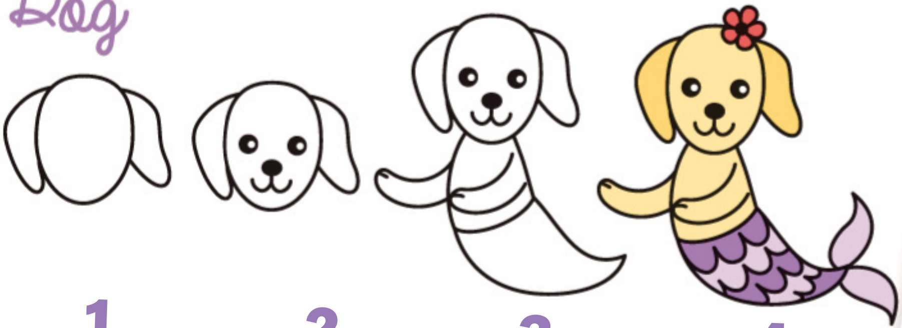
2 Add to dark, circular eyes with white pupils inside. Sketch a half-circle nose, a w-shaped mouth and a half-oval tongue; draw a circle around it all.

3 Draw rounded front paws with two lines on each. Create a body behind the head that ends in a crescent-shape tail.

4 Create a seashell shape on the head, then add the curved tail fins and the scalloped line details on the tail. Color!

Your drawing here!

Dog



1 Start by drawing an oval head. Add a rounded, triangular left ear. Copy the shape on the right but slant the bottom of the ear out.

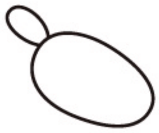
2 Draw two circles for the eyes with white pupils inside. Add an oval nose and a w-shaped mouth.

3 Add a crescent-shaped body with a line across its center. Sketch rounded arms that curve up; add a line on each paw.

4 Draw a flower on the dog's head. Add the scalloped lines on the tail and the fins on the end. Color everything!

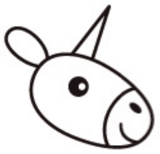
Your drawing here!

Unicorn



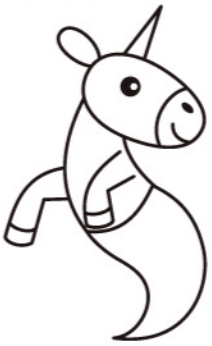
1

Begin drawing a slanted oblong shape with a small, long oval attached to the higher side.



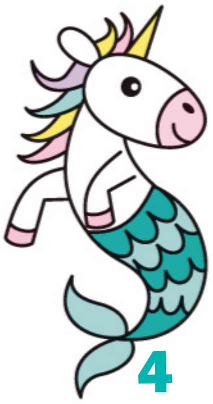
2

Draw a black eye with a white pupil. Create a curved line for the snout, then add one nostril and a smile. Add a long, triangular horn.



3

Sketch a curvy body that goes to the right and then curves left with a pointed tail. Add two bent arms that end with horizontal rectangles.

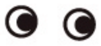


4

Give the unicorn a mane made of curvy triangles. Add scalloped lines on the tail and the tail fins. Color the unicorn!

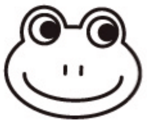
Your drawing here!

Frog



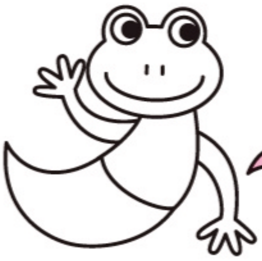
1

Sketch two circular eyes. Add smaller, dark circles inside.



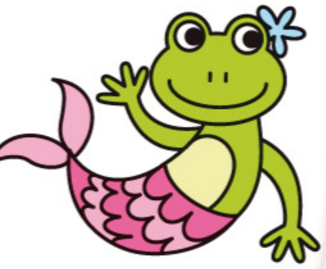
2

Outline around the eyes, then drag your pencil down to make the oval head. Add two lines for the nose and a curved line smile.



3

Draw a crescent shape for the body; sketch a line across the middle. Add two curved arms and hands with four curved fingers each.

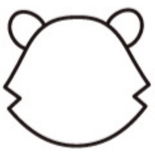


4

Sketch a flower, then add the fin details to the frog. Color it in!

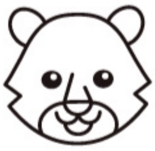
Your drawing here!

Tiger



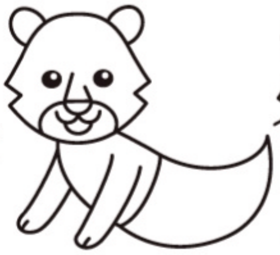
1

Draw a rounded head with two triangular indents on the sides. Sketch two rounded ears.



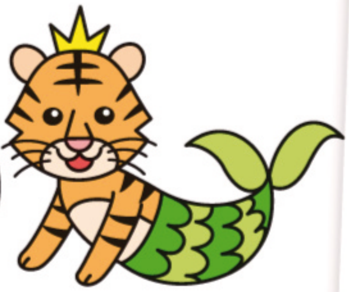
2

Add two circular eyes. For the nose, add two slanted lines and a half-circle. Draw a w-shaped mouth and a half-oval tongue. Add a half-oval muzzle around the nose and mouth.



3

Sketch a crescent-shaped body with a line across the center of it. Add rounded arms with a line on each paw.



4

Add the tiger's stripes. Then, sketch a crown and add the details on the tail. Color everything!

Your drawing here!

ILLUSTRATIONS BY NAOKO MATSUNAGA

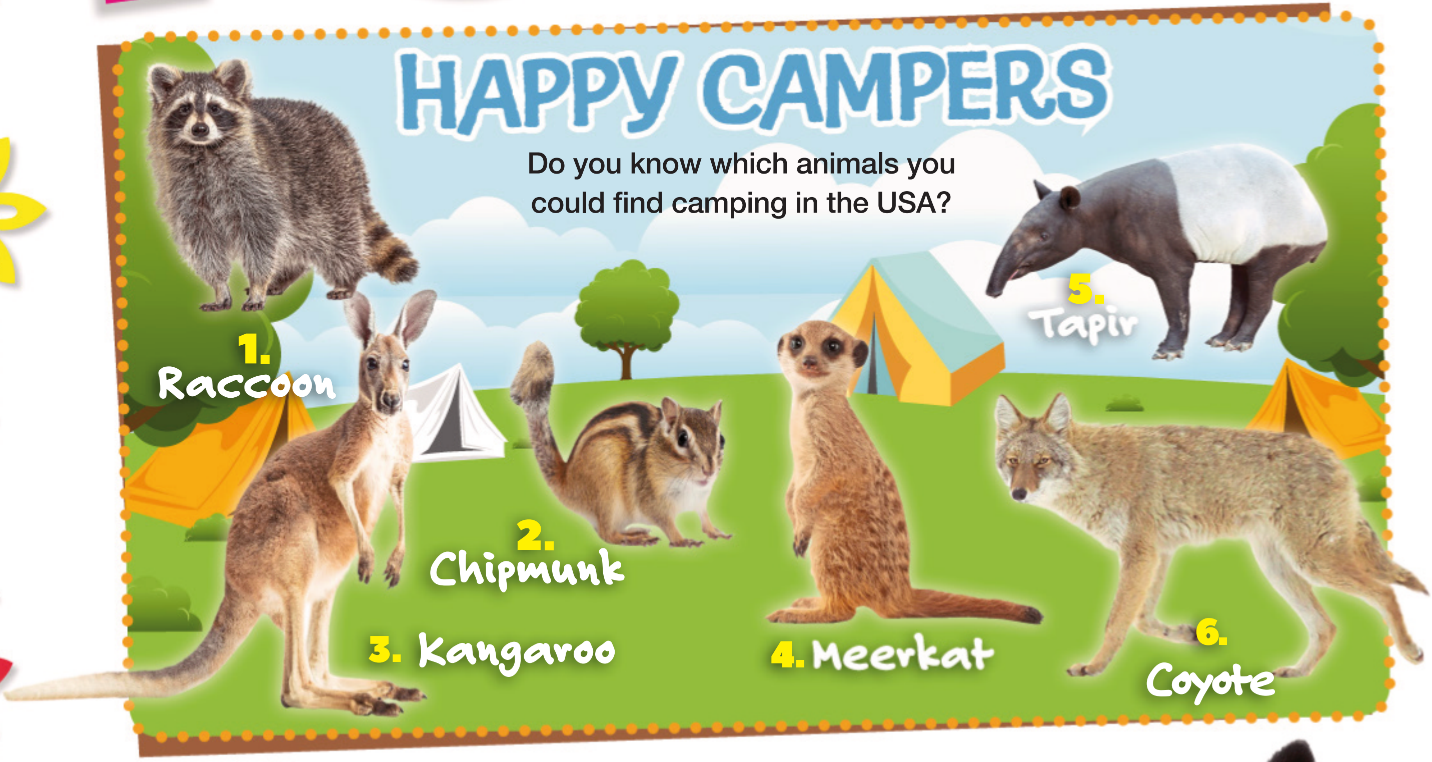
UP-ROAR-IOUS FUN

Animal Tales makes games just for critter lovers like you!

See answers on page 85.

HAPPY CAMPERS

Do you know which animals you could find camping in the USA?


1. Raccoon
2. Chipmunk
3. Kangaroo
4. Meerkat
5. Tapir
6. Coyote

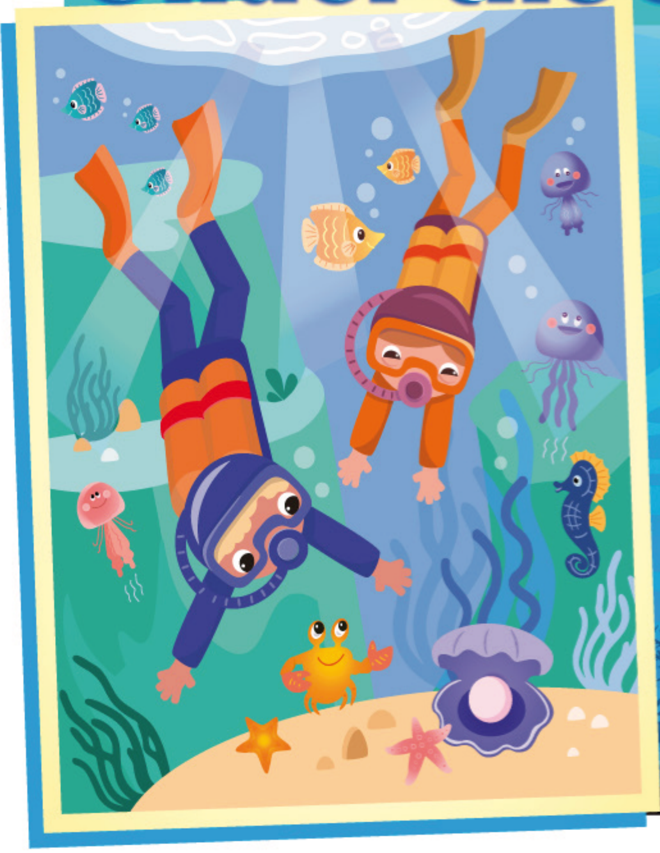
MEOW OR BOW WOW?

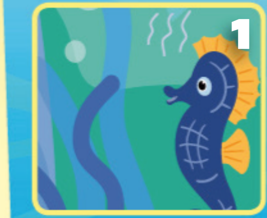
Can you figure out if each breed below is a cat or a dog?

1. Ragdoll ☐ Meow ☐ Bow Wow
2. Alaskan Malamute ☐ Meow ☐ Bow Wow
3. Newfoundland ☐ Meow ☐ Bow Wow
4. Burmese ☐ Meow ☐ Bow Wow
5. Akita ☐ Meow ☐ Bow Wow
6. Chartreux ☐ Meow ☐ Bow Wow

Under the Sea

Look at the picture and then the picture fragments on the right. Figure out which one isn't in the picture!

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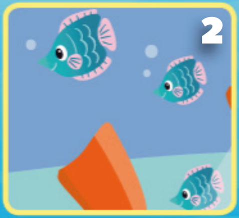
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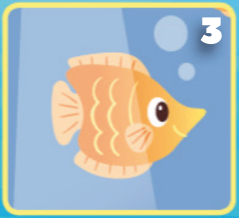
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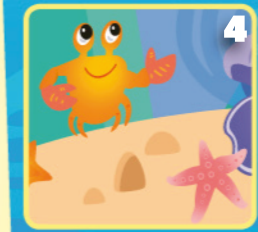
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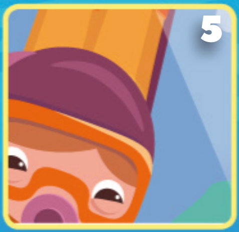
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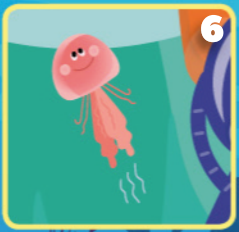
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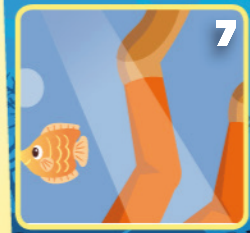
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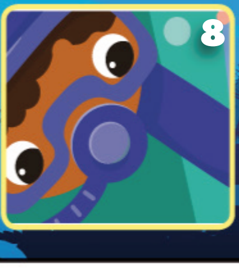
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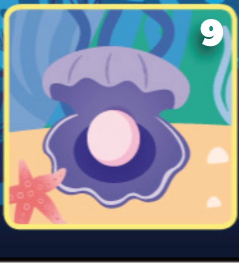
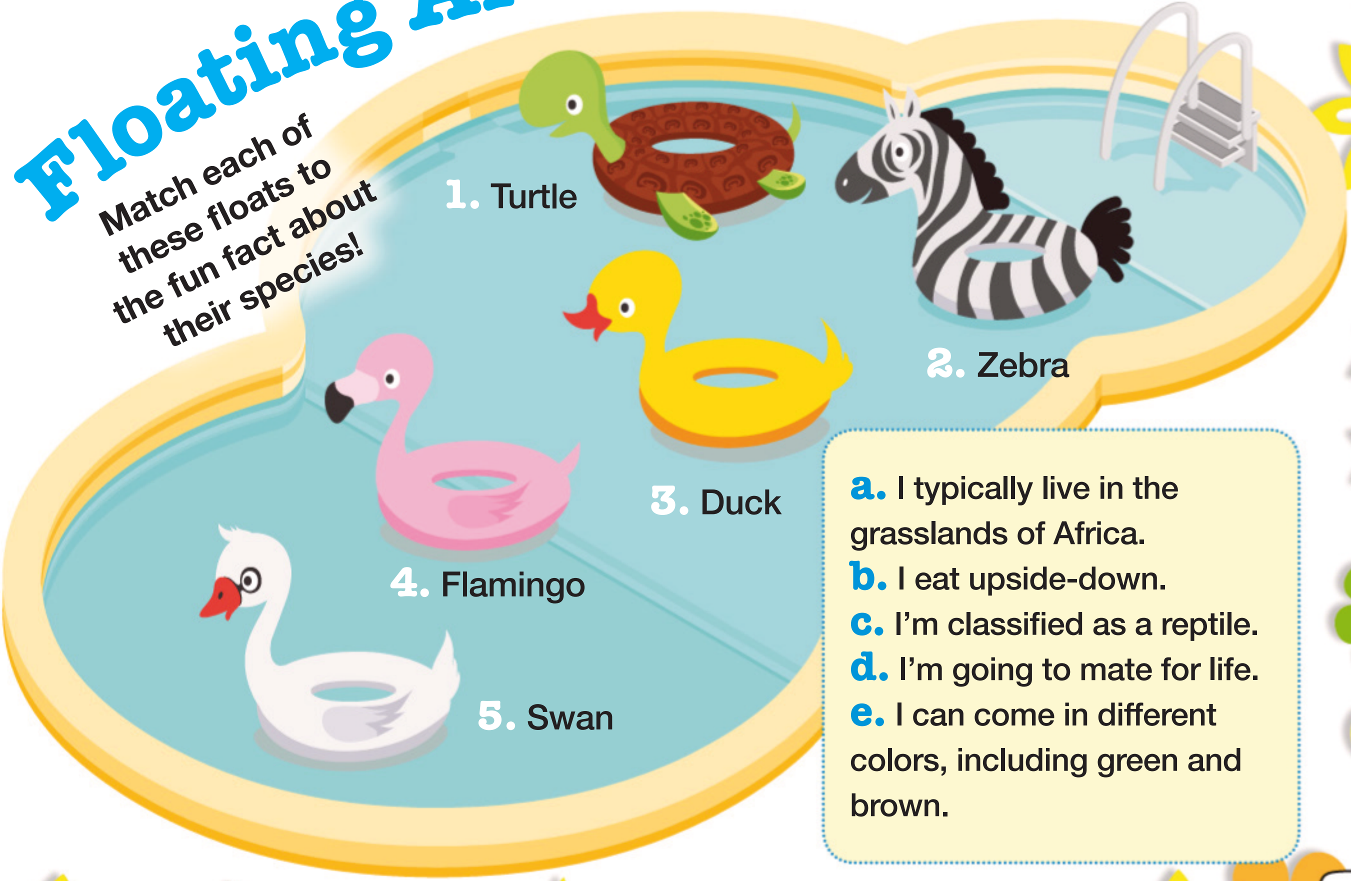

9

Floating Around

Match each of these floats to the fun fact about their species!



1. Turtle

2. Zebra

3. Duck

4. Flamingo

5. Swan

a. I typically live in the grasslands of Africa.

b. I eat upside-down.

c. I'm classified as a reptile.

d. I'm going to mate for life.

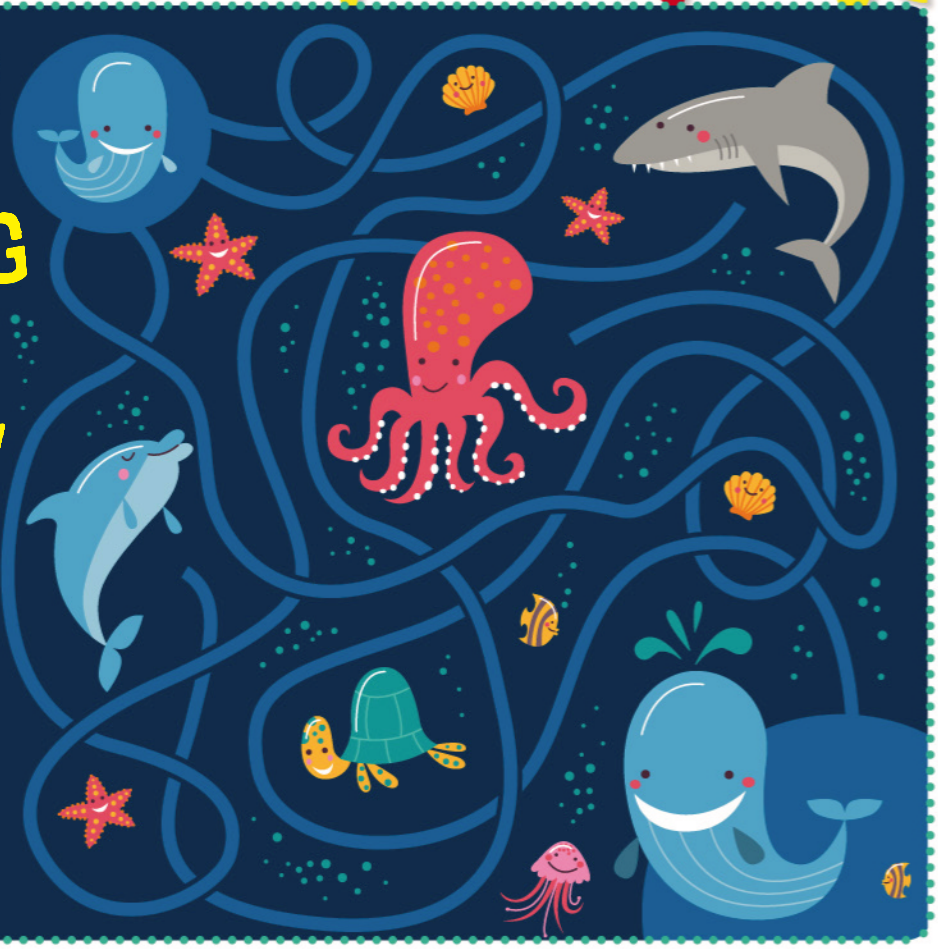
e. I can come in different colors, including green and brown.

SHUTTERSTOCK/ERIC ISSELEE(3); SHUTTERSTOCK/BRADLEY BLACKBURN; SHUTTERSTOCK/ANAN KAEWKHAMMUL;
SHUTTERSTOCK/ERIK LAM; SHUTTERSTOCK/CARTTONGIFT; SHUTTERSTOCK/NET VECTOR

UP-ROAR-IOUS FUN

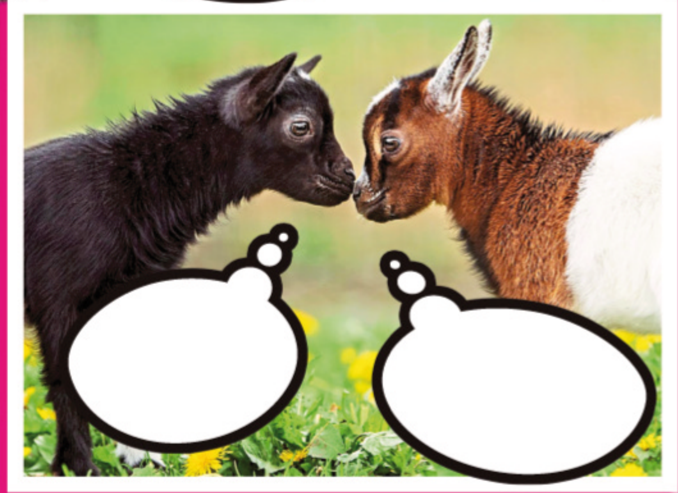
EVERYTHING WHALE BE OKAY

Help the baby whale find its mother!



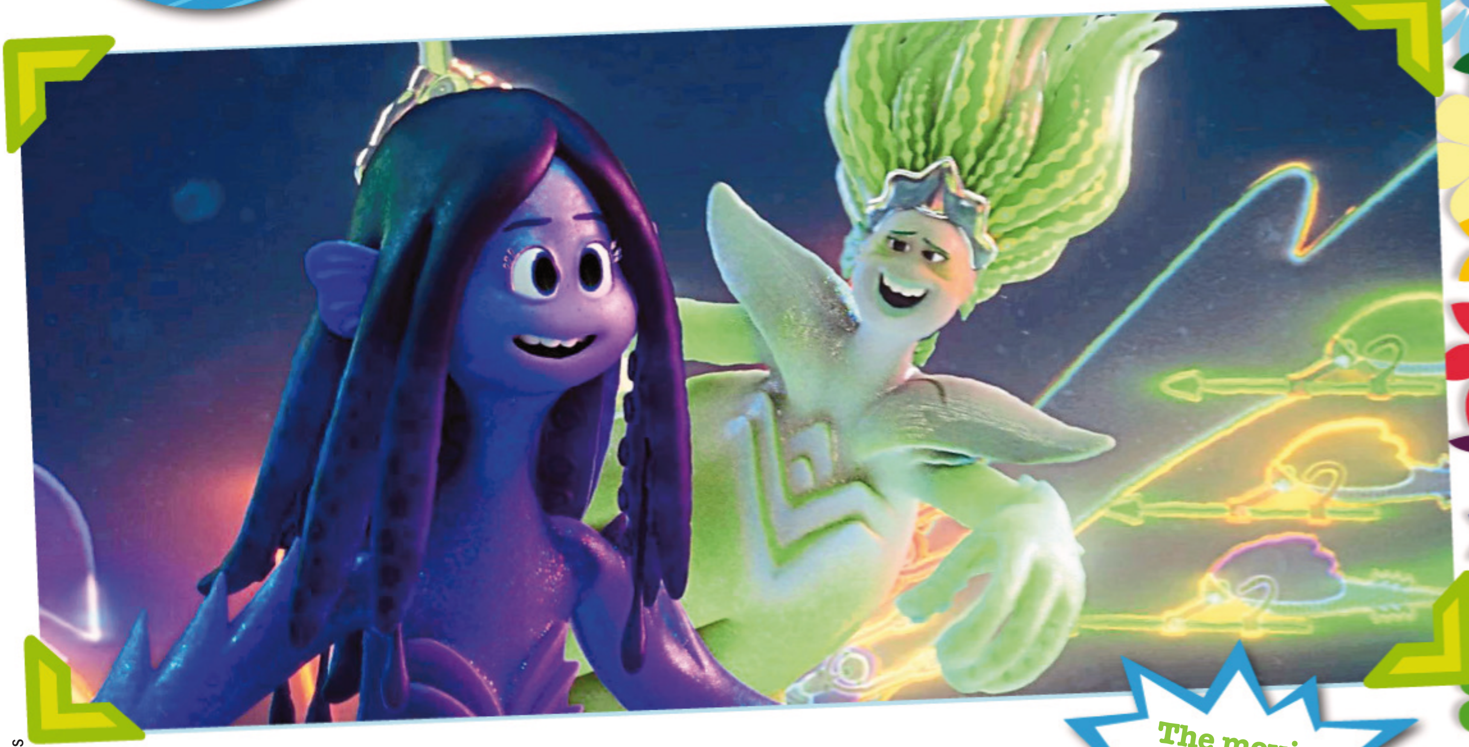
GOAT GOSSIP

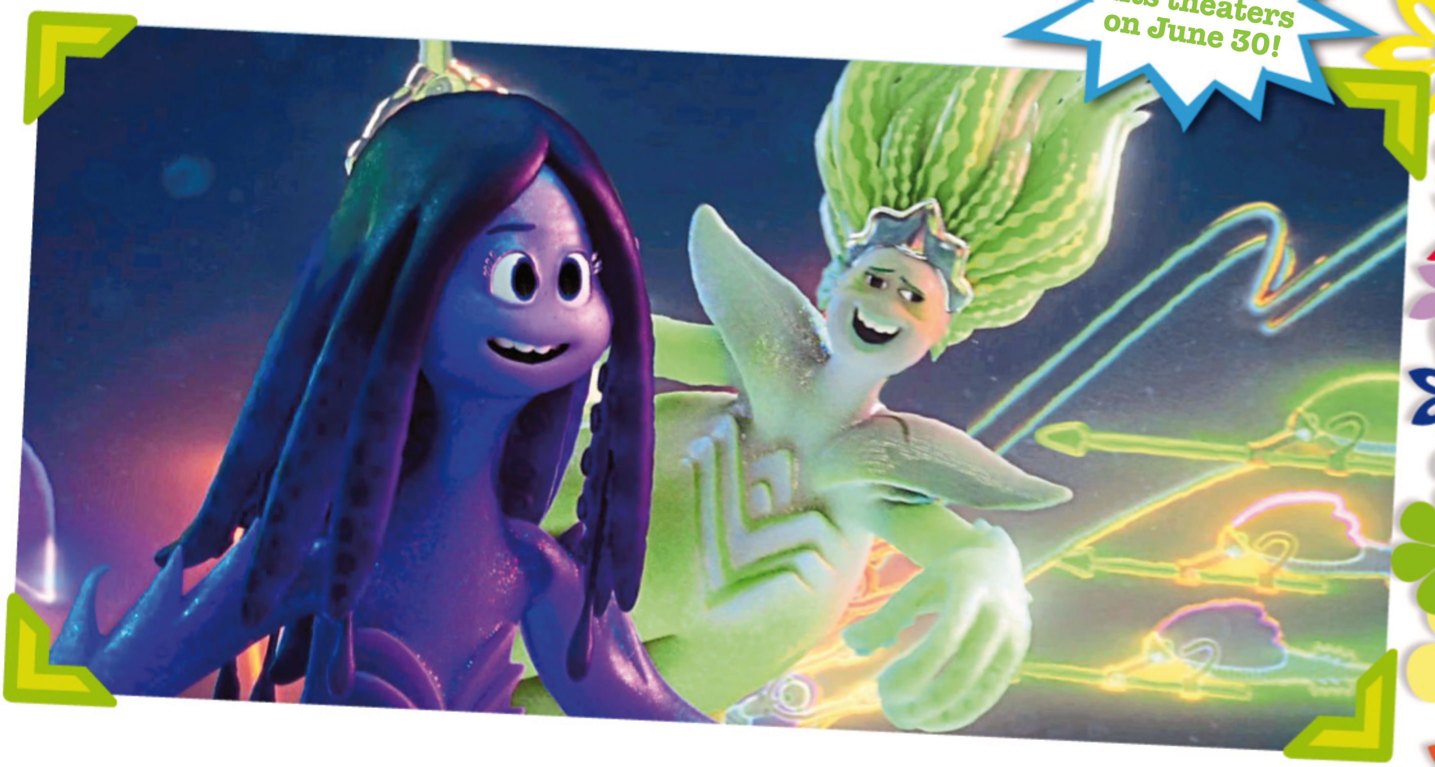
What do you think these goats are saying? Fill in the speech bubbles!



SPOT the differences!

Can you find and circle the 10 things that have changed in the second picture from *Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken*?

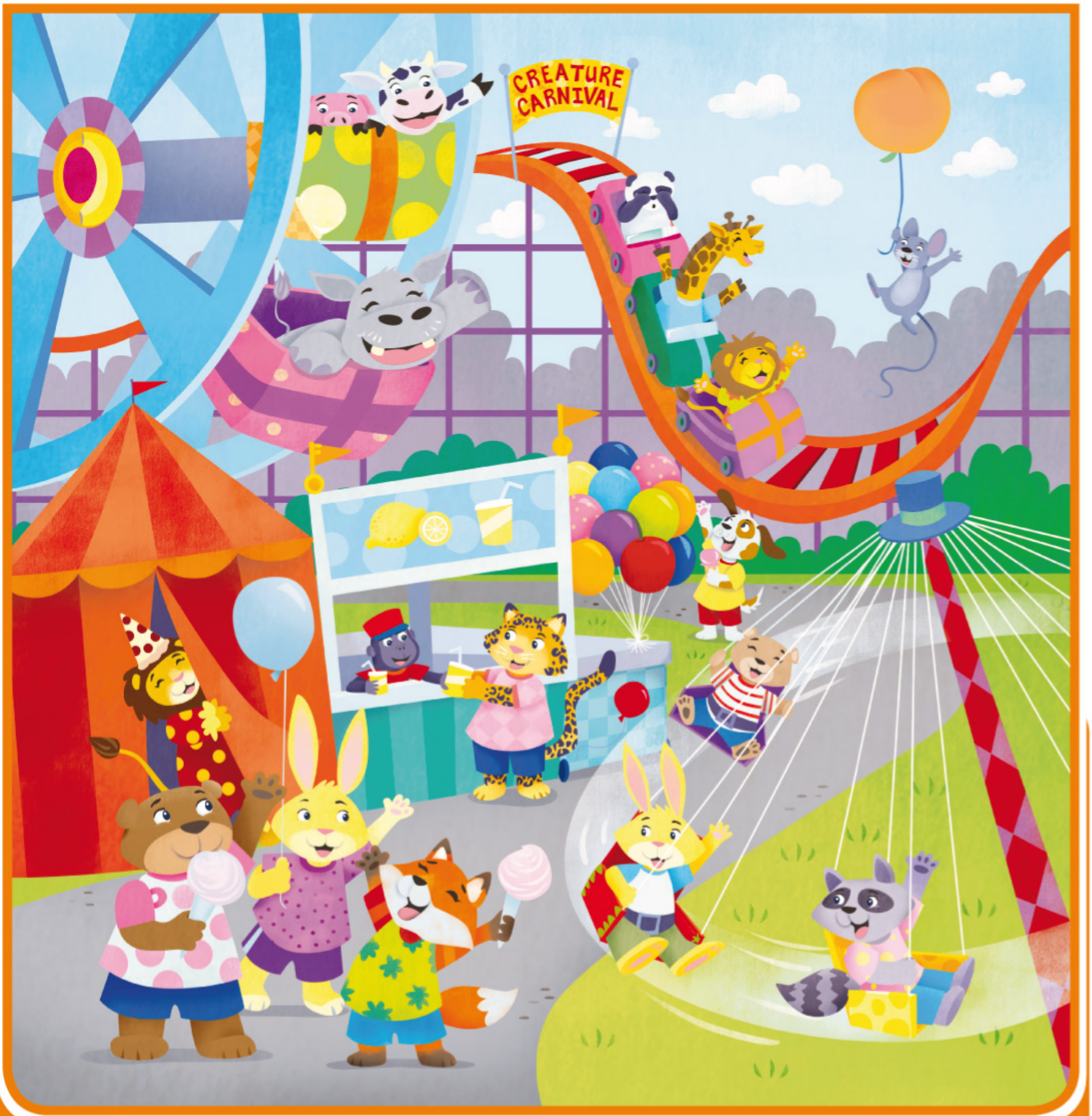




The movie hits theaters on June 30!

OPPOSITE PAGE: ALENA RAZUMOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK / RITA_KOCHMARJOVA(3). THIS PAGE: UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS



LOOK CLOSELY AND SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT THE FOLLOWING:
banana, ice cream cone, key, pizza slice, cup, carrot, hot pepper, Swiss cheese, cherry, top hat, peach, gift, toothbrush

THIS PAGE: ILLUSTRATION BY LISA MALLETT. OPPOSITE PAGE: ALENA RAZUMOVA/SHUTTERSTOCK; ONWILD/SHUTTERSTOCK, ILLUSTRATION BY LISA MALLETT

HILARIOUS JOKES

You otter be a comedian!

What do you call a celebrity that lives under the sea?
A starfish!

How do spiders communicate?
The worldwide web!

Why did the pig leave the party?
Because he thought everyone was a boar!

Where do the mice park their boat?
At the Hickory Dickory Dock!

What do you call a cow who eats your grass?
A lawn moo-er!

What kind of shoes do bears wear?
None, they go bear-foot!

Knock-knock time

KNOCK, KNOCK!
Who's there?
AMOS!
Amos who?
A MOSQUITO BIT ME, BOOHOO!

KNOCK, KNOCK!
Who's there?
DRAGON!
Dragon who?
I'M DRAGON YOU TO THE PARK!

KNOCK, KNOCK!
Who's there?
CAMEL!
Camel who?
CAMEL GET IT — DINNER'S READY!

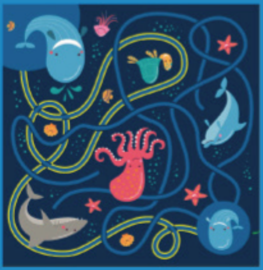
ANSWERS

HAPPY CAMPERS
1. Yes 4. No
2. Yes 5. No
3. No 6. Yes

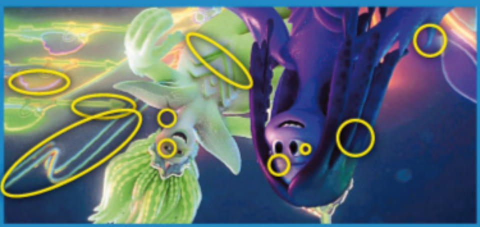
MEOW OR BOW WOW?
1. Meow
2. Bow Wow 5. Bow Wow
3. Bow Wow 6. Meow
4. Meow

UNDER THE SEA
8

EVERYTHING WHALE BE OK

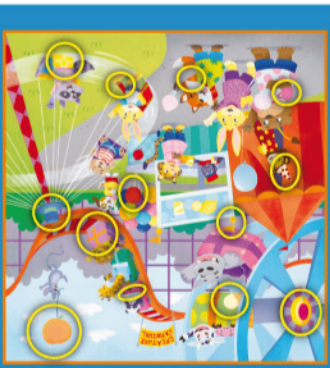


SPOT THE DIFFERENCES



FLOATING AROUND
1. c 3. e 5. d
2. a 4. b

FIND THE HIDDEN OBJECTS



Animal FACE-OFF

The competition was fierce, but somebody had to win!

WHO IS THE most patriotic?

What's better than one adorable animal celebrating the Fourth of July? Three! We crown these three kittens the winners … though the pup does like very cool in those sunglasses!

SHUTTERSTOCK / RED_VELVET; SHUTTERSTOCK / SHEILA FITZGERALD;
SHUTTERSTOCK / NATASHA ZAKHAROVA; SHUTTERSTOCK / KASHAEVA IRINA;
SHUTTERSTOCK / HUNG CHUNG CHIH; SHUTTERSTOCK / ADRIAVIDAL

WHO IS THE trendiest?

This is a tough one because both the cat and dog are wearing outfits we'd totally wear ourselves, but it's the classic jean jacket that gives the dog a stylish vibe that makes him our winner!

WHO IS THE nap king?

You have to be really tired to fall asleep in the middle of the wilderness like this brown bear, but we declare the panda the winner because you have to be really, really sleepy fall asleep sitting up!

WHO IS berry adorable?

That mouse snacking on a bucket full of strawberries is very cute, but we think the rabbits sniffing out their next snack are even cuter, so they win!

WHO IS having a ball?

There's no competition — the two seals holding up their beach balls at the exact same time take the top spot in this round!

SHUTTERSTOCK / LNBJORS; SHUTTERSTOCK / LESYA GIRL; SHUTTERSTOCK / JAVIER BROSCH; SHUTTERSTOCK / SUKPAIBOONWAT; SHUTTERSTOCK / KHOROSHUNOVA OLGA; SHUTTERSTOCK / STEFAN CSONTOS; SHUTTERSTOCK / ARMELLE LL; SHUTTERSTOCK / NANCY D. PEREZ

WHO IS THE most eye-catching?

That Philippine tarsier’s yellow eyes would definitely stand out in a crowd, but the dragonfly’s friendly-looking blue eyes are surprisingly cute for an insect. It wins!

WHO IS THE best diver?

We have a feeling that cat would be happy to lay in the sun on that diving board all day long … without actually getting into the water! For that reason, the otter is the clear winner of this round.

Critter Q&A

Wondering about the wild and wonderful animal kingdom? You've come to the right place!

Can my dog drink pool water?

— CHERRY, 10, NJ

It isn't a good idea for a dog to drink water from a pool. Pools have different chemicals, like chlorine, designed to keep the water safe for swimming, but drinking too much of it can cause serious tummy issues for a pup. If a dog gets a little bit of pool water in their mouth, it's okay, but they shouldn't be drinking out of a pool like it's a giant dog bowl. Instead, if you're having a pool day, make sure your dog has an actual water bowl outside so it can drink fresh water!

I'm fostering kittens and my friend is going to adopt one. I wonder if the kitten will remember me — do cats have good memories?

— ARIELLA, 10, OK

Cats certainly have the ability to remember the humans in their lives! Whether or not a cat remembers you all depends on how much time you spend bonding with it. The more a human cares for, teaches, cuddles and loves a cat, the more likely they are to form a lasting memory. So, if you're spending lots of time with your foster kitten, there's a good chance it'll remember you when you go over your friend's house to hang out in the future!

Do goldfish get lonely in the tank alone?

— KINGSTON, 8, CA

You don't have to worry about your goldfish feeling sad about being alone in its tank! It's easy to think life in a tank would be lonely, but that's because you're a human! Humans are social and like being around other humans. Goldfish, on the other hand, aren't social animals. They don't feel sadness or loneliness the way humans do, so no matter how much time they spend all by themselves in their tank, they won't feel sad about it!

SHUTTERSTOCK/CHENDONGSHAN; SHUTTERSTOCK/GIUSEPPE_R; SHUTTERSTOCK/MIKAEL DAMKIER; SHUTTERSTOCK/
ERIC ISSELEE; SHUTTERSTOCK/TANYA LUNEVA; SHUTTERSTOCK/FIRN; SHUTTERSTOCK/MARK LYNHAM

Why does my gecko lick its eyes?

— PETER, 12, WV

When our eyes are itchy, there's dust in the air or our eyes feel a little dry, our bodies know to blink. Blinking keeps our eyes protected from anything that could damage them. But, guess what? Most gecko species don't have eyelids that can blink. Licking their eyes is their way of cleaning and protecting their eyes, so it's completely normal, and actually healthy for your gecko to do it!

Can any animals other than birds get catchy songs or beats stuck in their heads like humans can?

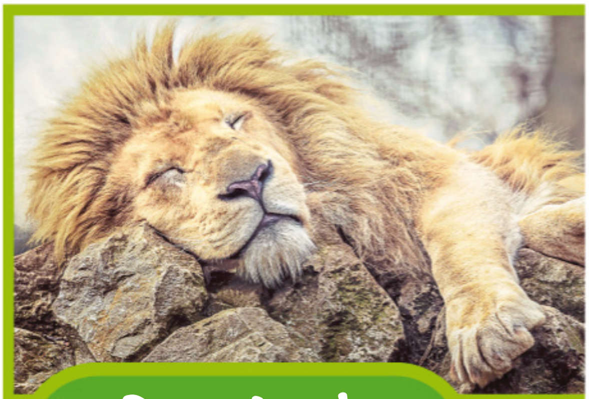
— VIOLET, 12, CA

It's unlikely that animals get songs stuck in their heads the same way we do. Why? Well, because music was made to appeal to human ears, and animals hear things much differently than we do. They can hear different pitches and tones that we can't, and the pitches and tones found in our music don't really catch an animal's attention. So, even if you play the same song for your pet each day, it's unlikely that they'll listen to it and enjoy it the way you do!

Why don't animals need sunscreen?

— OAKLEY, 7, MN

Humans use sunscreen to protect our skin from the sun's UV rays, but animals have different forms of protection! They use their fur, feathers, thick hides and other features to stay safe when they're out in the sun. Scientists also believe some animals have the ability to produce gadusol, which is a special compound that protects their skin from the UV rays.



Do animals have dreams?

— NAIA, 9, MB, CANADA

They sure do! Dreams are something that experts are still learning a lot about … even human dreams! Things get a little more complicated when it comes to researching animal dreams, because animals can't talk to scientists to tell them what they experience when they enter dreamland. What scientists do know is that mammals can dream, and like us, they dream during a part of sleep called REM sleep. They also believe that an animal dreams with a focus on different senses, so a cat may have dreams where it sees things, while a rat may have dreams where it smells things!

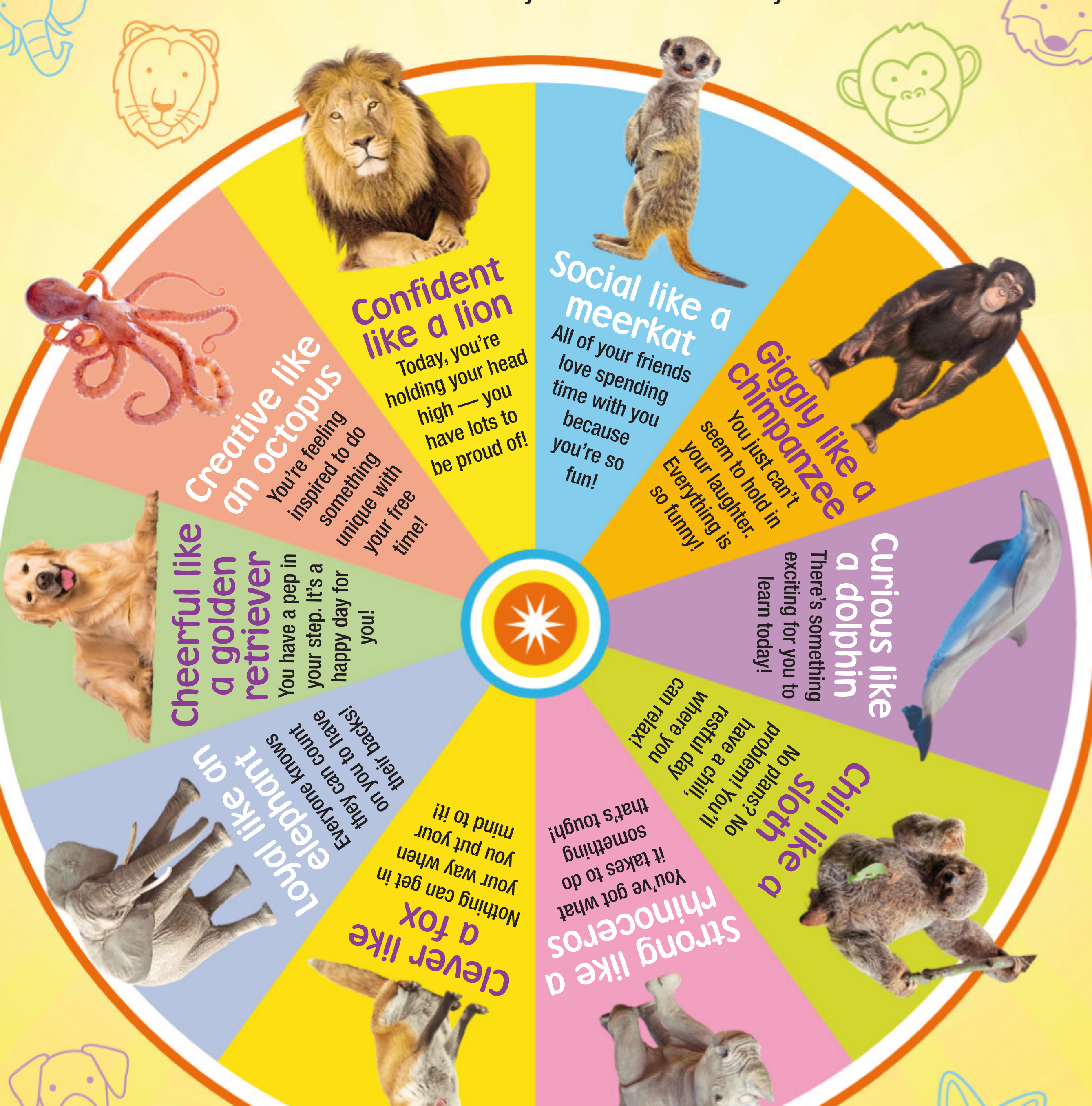
SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS!

Do you have a question about an animal? We'd love to answer it for you! Email your question to mail@animaltalesmag.com with "Critter Q&A" in the subject line.

What's your animal attitude?

There's one creature you're bonding with today — which is it?!

Directions: Place a pencil at the center of the spinner and spin it. Whichever animal is your mood for the day!



Confident like a lion
Today, you're holding your head high — you have lots to be proud of!

Social like a meerkat
All of your friends love spending time with you because you're so fun!

Giggly like a chimpanzee
You just can't seem to hold in your laughter. Everything is so funny!

Curious like a dolphin
There's something exciting for you to learn today!

Chill like a sloth
No plans? No problem! You'll have a chill, restful day where you can relax!

Strong like a rhinoceros
You've got what it takes to do something that's tough!

Clever like a fox
Nothing can get in your way when you put your mind to it!

Loyal like an elephant
Everyone knows they can count on you to have their backs!

Cheerful like a golden retriever
You have a pep in your step. It's a happy day for you!

Creative like an octopus
You're feeling inspired to do something unique with your free time!

DZM1TRY/SHUTTERSTOCK; BONEZBOYZ/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK/PAN DEMIN; SHUTTERSTOCK/ERIC ISSELEE (5); SHUTTERSTOCK/ NEIRFY; SHUTTERSTOCK/HARRY COLLINS PHOTOGRAPHY; SHUTTERSTOCK/ANAN KAEWKHAMMUL; SHUTTERSTOCK/JAKUB KRECHOWICZ

ON SALE NOW!

Check out this cool mag!

HOW TO CELEBRATE THE FIRST DAY OF SUMMER!
girls' WORLD
Totally Created By You!
Flower Power FASHION: The cutest floral outfits!
THE GIRL POWER ISSUE!
Gabrielle Nevaeh Green reveals why being a girl rules!
QUIZ: HOW SHOULD YOU BOND WITH YOUR BFF?
11 AWESOME POSTERS FOR YOUR ROOM!
Bake chocolate chip candy cookies!

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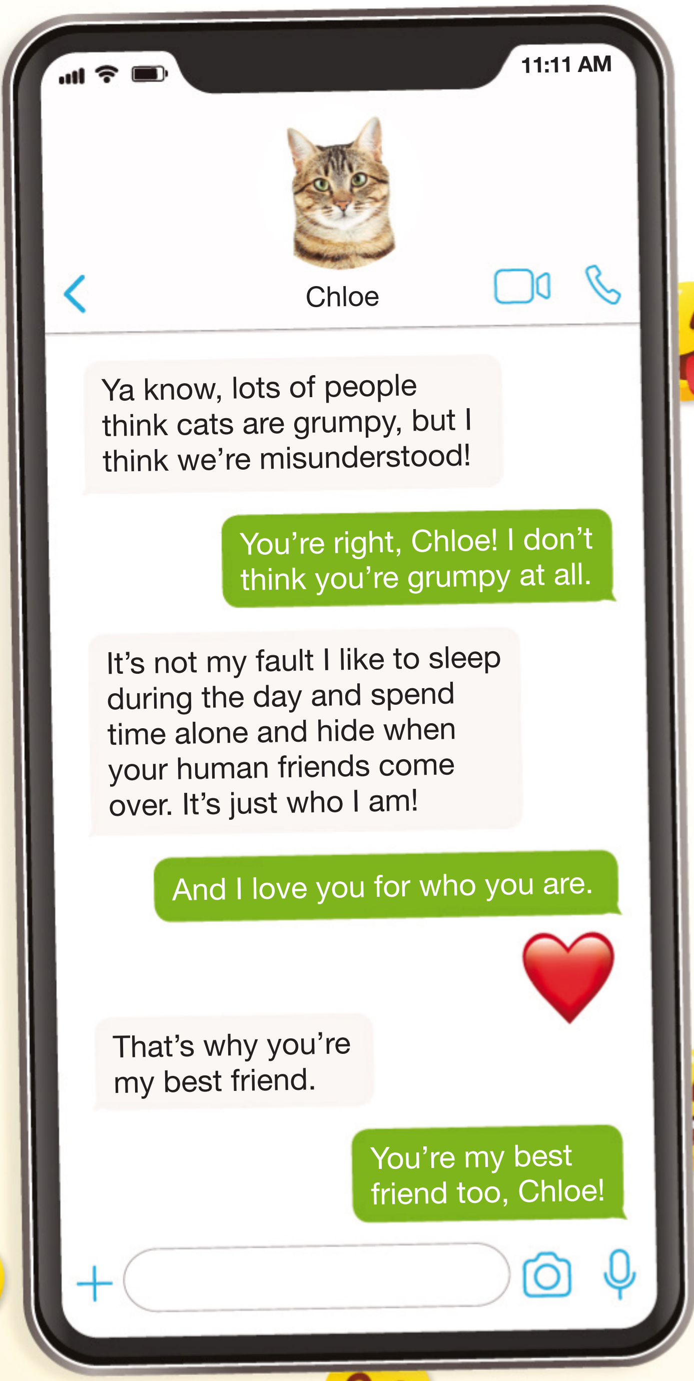
GLS Y38GAF

IF PETS CO

LOL at what would happen if your furry friend could use a phone!



11:11 AM

Chloe

Ya know, lots of people think cats are grumpy, but I think we're misunderstood!

You're right, Chloe! I don't think you're grumpy at all.

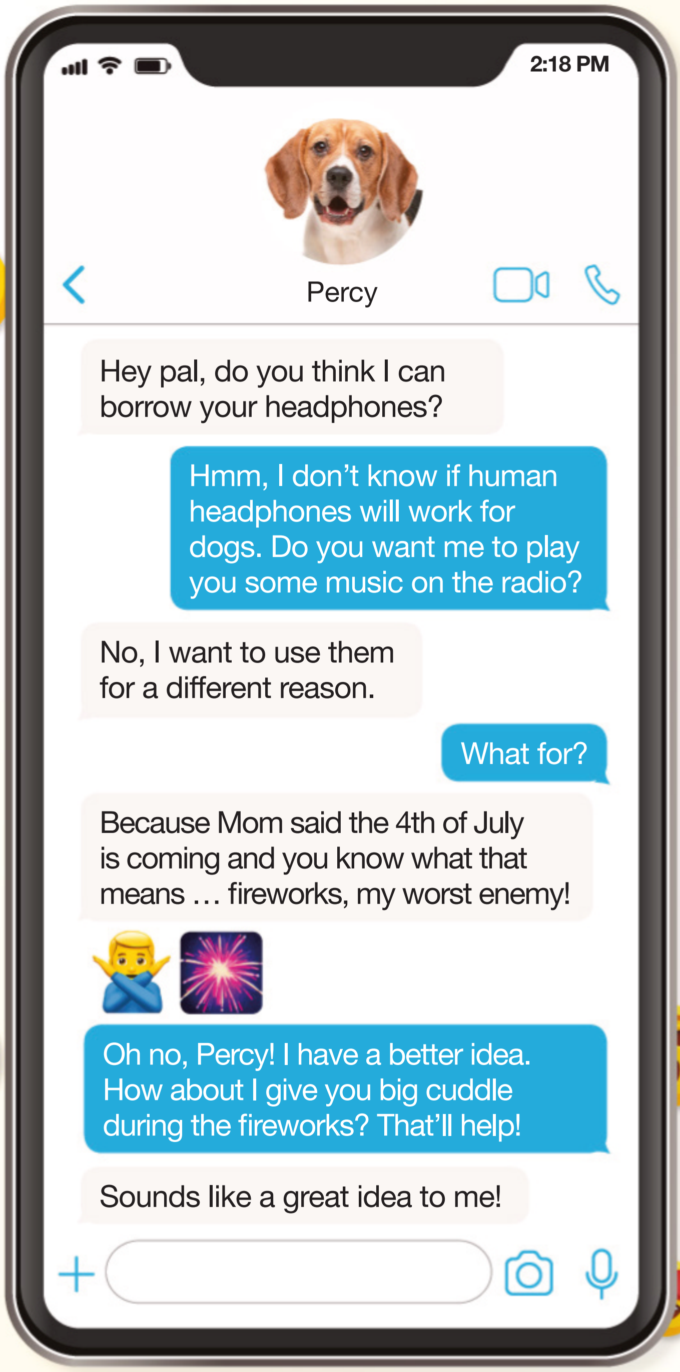
It's not my fault I like to sleep during the day and spend time alone and hide when your human friends come over. It's just who I am!

And I love you for who you are.

❤️

That's why you're my best friend.

You're my best friend too, Chloe!



2:18 PM

Percy

Hey pal, do you think I can borrow your headphones?

Hmm, I don't know if human headphones will work for dogs. Do you want me to play you some music on the radio?

No, I want to use them for a different reason.

What for?

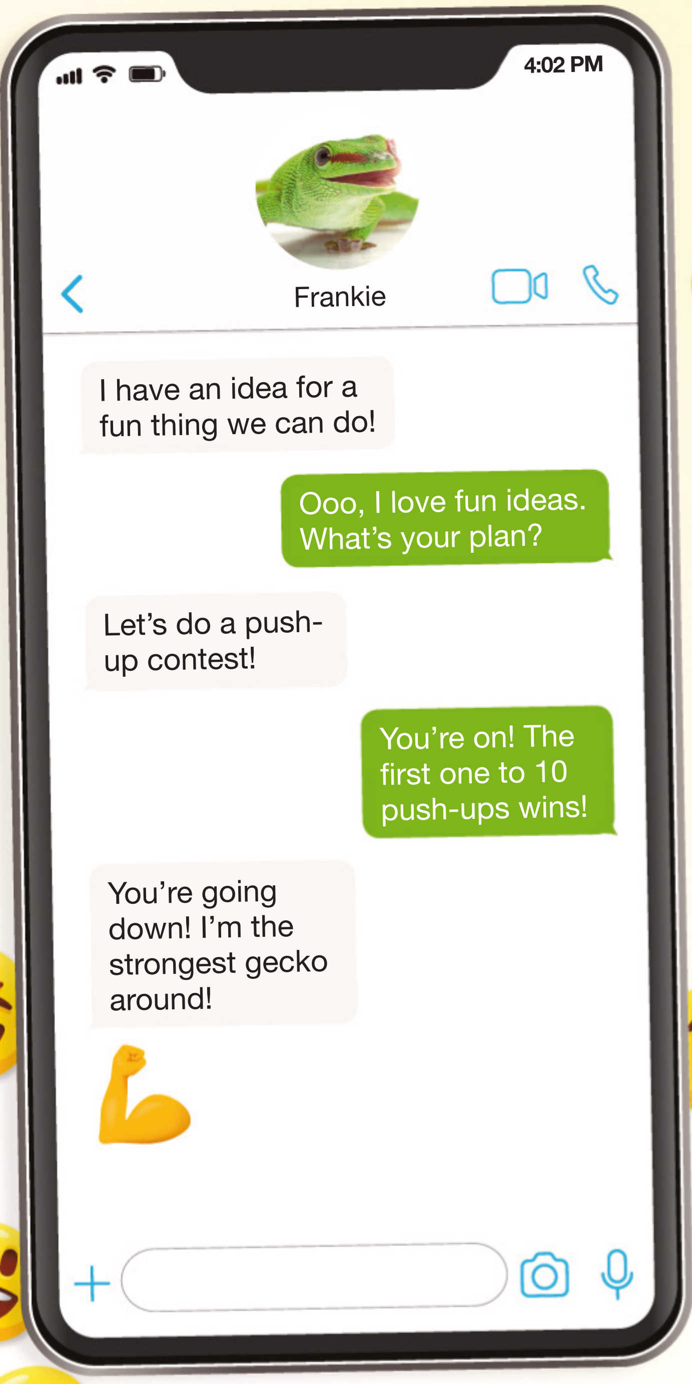
Because Mom said the 4th of July is coming and you know what that means … fireworks, my worst enemy!

🙅‍♂️ 🎆

Oh no, Percy! I have a better idea. How about I give you big cuddle during the fireworks? That'll help!

Sounds like a great idea to me!

ULD TEXT!



I have an idea for a fun thing we can do!

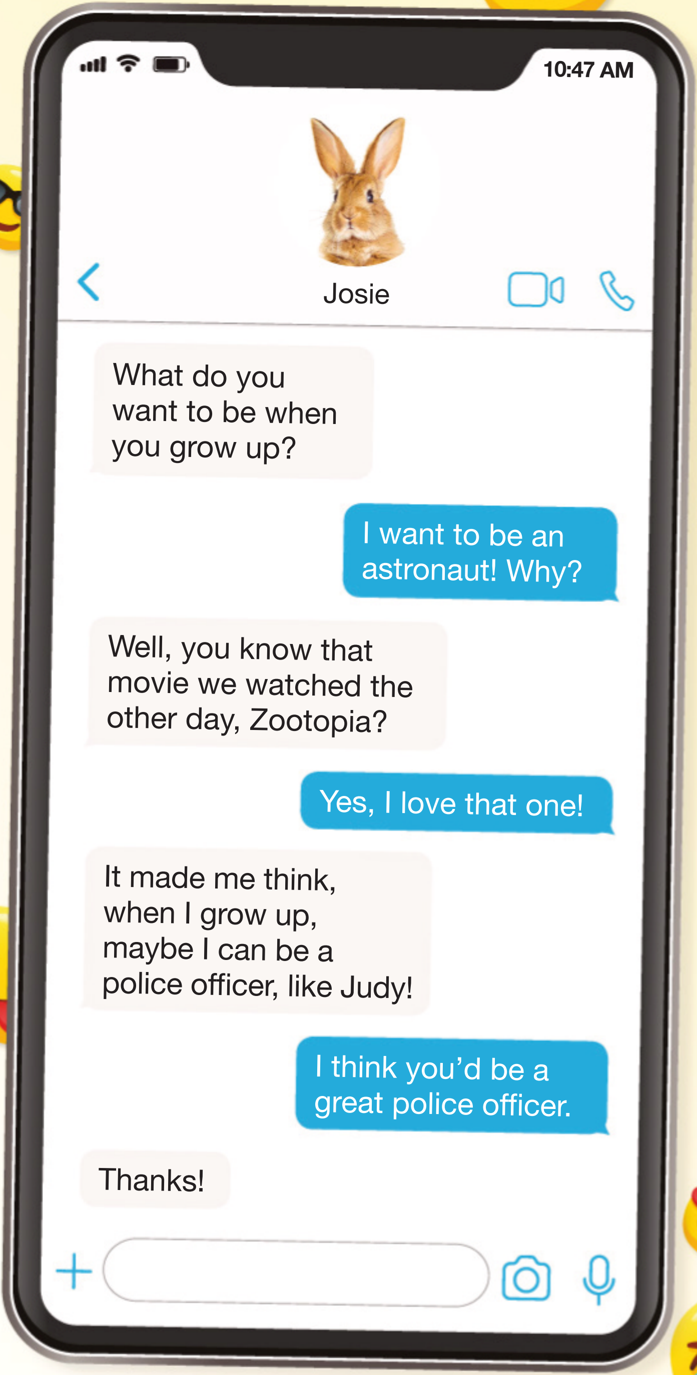
Ooo, I love fun ideas. What's your plan?

Let's do a push-up contest!

You're on! The first one to 10 push-ups wins!

You're going down! I'm the strongest gecko around!

💪



What do you want to be when you grow up?

I want to be an astronaut! Why?

Well, you know that movie we watched the other day, Zootopia?

Yes, I love that one!

It made me think, when I grow up, maybe I can be a police officer, like Judy!

I think you'd be a great police officer.

Thanks!

SHUTTERSTOCK/5 SECOND STUDIO; SHUTTERSTOCK/SVETOGRAPHY; SHUTTERSTOCK/FIVESPOTS; SHUTTERSTOCK/
HAPPY MONKEY; KATERYNA MOR/SHUTTERSTOCK; SHUTTERSTOCK/OASISAMUEL; YA BLUE KO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Your PICS

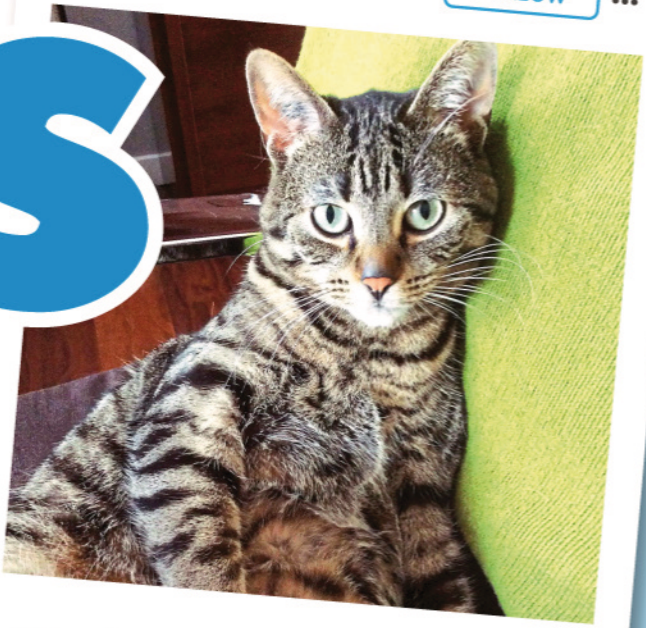
Consider this our reader appreciation post!

SEND US YOUR PHOTO!

Send us a picture of your pet or a wild animal, and it could end up on this page! You can email it to us at mail@animaltalesmag.com, tag us on Instagram @animaltalesmag or send it to *Animal Tales*, Your Pics,
270 Sylvan Avenue Suite 2220
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632.
Sorry, pics can't be returned.

Follow us on instagram @animaltalesmag!

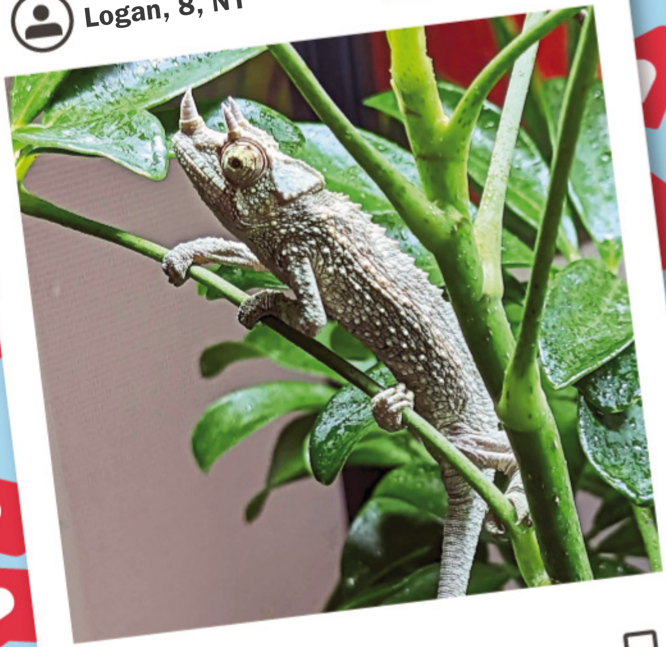
Naia, 9, MB, Canada FOLLOW ...



Liked by **animaltalesmag** and **90 others**

Mew Mew #kittycat #loungingaround

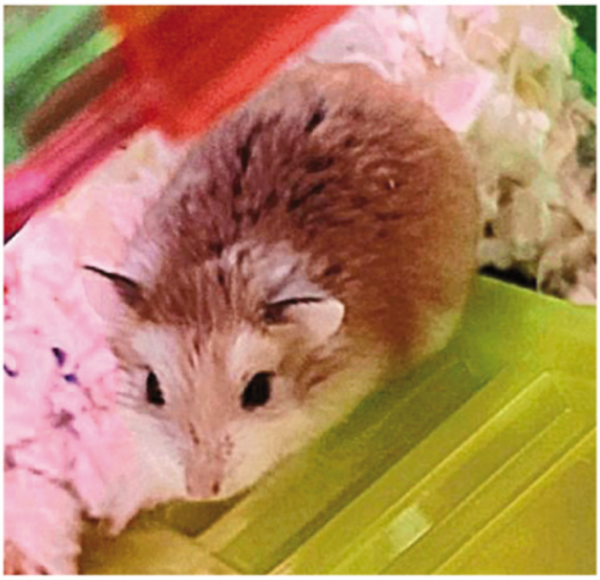
Logan, 8, NY FOLLOW ...



Liked by **animaltalesmag** and **90 others**

Trice #myjacksonschameleon #blendingin

Annelise, 12, ID FOLLOW ...



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Pebbles #dwarfhamstergram #hyperham

Isabel, 9, CA

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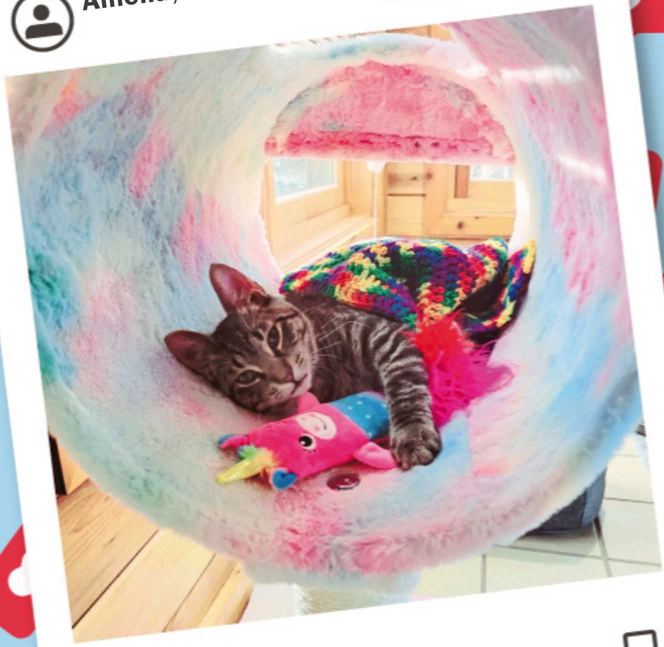
Alvin #hideandseek #pillowpet

Amelia, 8, WI



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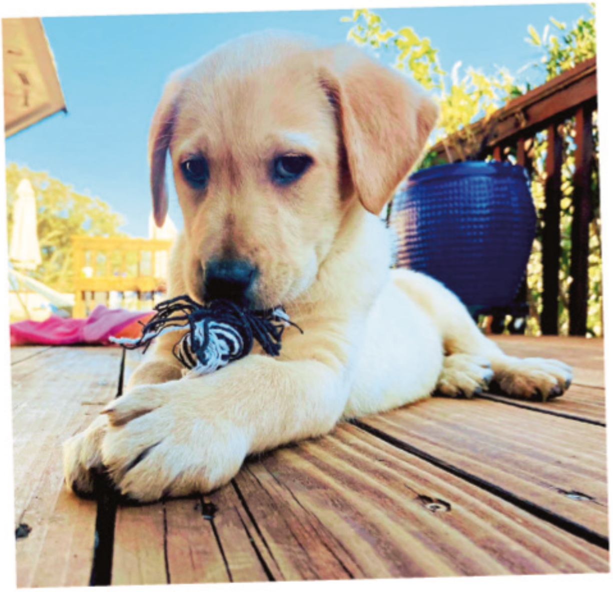
Dreamy #colorfulcat #naptime

Emma, 6, OH

Liked by **animaltalesmag** and **90 others**

Maggie and Charlie #boxerbuds #happytohangout

Joyce, 9, CA



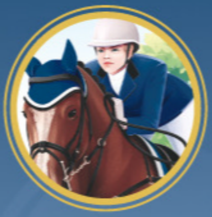
Liked by **animaltalesmag** and **90 others**

Rocky #toytime #sunnyday

JOIN THE

Saddlehill Academy

BY JESSICA BURKHART



At Saddlehill Academy, one of the most prestigious equestrian boarding schools in the country, the competition is high and so is the drama. Fill out the word search below to see if you have what it takes to attend!

Z	S	F	X	X	J	C	K	H	U	R	D	L	E	S	P	I	S
H	T	V	R	S	A	B	O	T	A	G	E	M	S	Q	R	O	W
J	E	C	Q	I	S	R	U	M	O	R	S	L	M	C	Z	K	A
F	P	K	C	S	E	F	W	J	V	S	E	C	R	E	T	S	M
T	S	J	K	H	O	N	Z	W	L	N	S	W	V	X	R	V	S
P	I	A	X	O	S	H	D	P	R	R	N	D	B	E	A	U	O
E	S	D	D	W	O	Q	L	S	U	Z	E	J	V	Y	M	P	Q
I	T	V	U	D	Y	S	A	S	H	A	S	I	L	V	E	R	T
H	E	C	C	O	L	V	I	O	F	I	J	O	C	K	H	Z	M
S	R	P	L	W	A	E	I	G	X	K	P	H	O	R	S	E	F
S	S	K	F	N	V	X	Y	B	L	I	N	D	E	R	S	Q	W
H	V	N	D	R	I	V	A	L	S	E	A	Z	Q	K	L	C	N

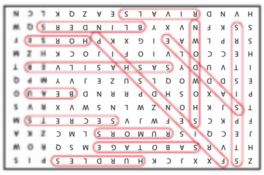
HORSE
SECRETS
HURDLES
SADDLE

BLINDERS
RIVALS
SABOTAGE
BEAU
SASHA SILVER

SHOWDOWN
RUMORS
STEP SISTERS
FRIENDSHIP

Saddlehill Academy
Sweet & Bitter Rivals
Jessica Burkhart

ANSWERS



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Saddlehill Academy
The Showdown
Jessica Burkhart